

Semi-annual Social Monitoring Report

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BHU: Urban Infrastructure Project – Components A, B and C

Prepared by the Department of Engineering Services for the Royal Government of Bhutan and the Asian Development Bank.

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Persons Consulted

Mr. Moni Rizal	Project Manager	PIU S/Jongkhar
Mr. Kinley Penjore	Project Manager	PIU, Thimphu thromde
Mr. Thrukten Tshering	Project Engineer	PIU, Thimphu
Mr. Tashi Topgyel	Project Engineer	WWTP, Babesa, Technofab, Thimphu
Mr. Pema Khandu	Lab In-charge	WWTP, Babesa, Thimphu

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Project will improve urban infrastructure, planning, and management; enhance urban livelihoods; and increase capacity for administering urban infrastructure supply and maintenance works through four project outputs: (i) water supply and sanitation infrastructure in SamdrupJongkhar and Thimphu Thromde improved; (ii) mobility in Phuentsholing Thromde improved; (iii) urban management strengthened; (iv) capacity of urban public officials strengthened for public awareness in health and hygiene and project management and implementation. Of these outputs (i) and (ii) involve the construction of three infrastructure investments: (i) construction of a 12 million liter per day (MLD) Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Thimphu (Component A); (ii) construction of a bridge over the river Om-Chhu in Phuentsholing (Component B). Component B also includes the construction of 0.17 km of approach road, roundabout and upgrading of 0.2 km of existing road which is complete and (iii) construction of water intake and 2.5 MLD Water Treatment Plant (WTP) in SamdrupJongkhar (Component C). Semi-annual Social Monitoring Report (SSMR) is prepared to monitor the Social safeguards compliances of these two infrastructures (Component A and C) since Component B is completed and the detail shall be reflected in Project Completion Report together with other component A and C.

B. BACKGROUND OF THE REPORT AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2. The Royal Government of Bhutan expressed the need for infrastructure development in Bhutan and requested ADB for Project preparation to ensure sustainable urban development in additional towns. ADB conducted a PPTA study under TA 7360 and identified work components (Output 1a, 1b and 2) in the following towns – Thimphu, Phuentsholing, SamdrupJongkhar and Rinchenthang (Nganglam) where Nganglam was later dropped. Accordingly, a proposed Urban Infrastructure Project (UIP) was framed up by ADB in the year 2011. It was conceptualized and planned that UIP would follow the on-going Urban Infrastructure Development Project (UIDP).

3. The basis for urban infrastructure investment is the Government's Structural Plans and Local Area Plans (LAPs) and these LAPs prioritize urban infrastructure requirements with tentative costs. The aim of improving, upgrading and expanding the urban infrastructure facilities and providing basic urban services materialized when the government concluded a loan agreement with ADB.

4. The Project title is "Urban Infrastructure Project" (UIP) under ADB Loan 2816-BHU. The loan was approved by ADB on 29 November 2011 and the loan became effective on 27 April 2012. The initial loan closing was 14 August 2018, which was extended until June 2021 due to initial procurement delays. The COVID-19 pandemic also hindered the work progress of WWTP. The total Project cost is estimated at \$23.38 million, of which ADB financing \$19.87 million and the government financing \$3.51 million.

5. The Social Safeguard impacts under 3 components, Component A and B falls under "*Category B*" and there is no identified impact under Component C. Therefore, a due diligence report (DDR) was required. As far as DDR for WTP is concerned, the report was initially submitted on 14 Feb, 2017 but as the construction of access road to intake weir had not been finalized at that time, it was not reflected therein. Therefore, the updated combined DDR for WTP, Intake and Access road was prepared in 2019 and submitted to ADB. This SSMR is prepared on a semi-annual basis (every six months) and updated with the impacts, if identified. The reporting and adjustment of safeguard measures were discussed with the Project Manager of each PIU and addressed accordingly. If the impacts are found to be severe then safeguards measures are described in the SSMR.

C. SCOPE OF IMPACTS

6. The Project will support government's efforts toward ensuring balanced and sustainable development of human settlements in Thimphu, Phuentsholing and SamdrupJongkhar. The Project outcome is 'Improved Urban Infrastructure' for the residents of Thimphu, Phuentsholing and SamdrupJongkhar municipalities (Thromdes) provided. The Project has four outputs: (i) water supply and sanitation infrastructure in SamdrupJongkhar and Thimphu Thromde improved; (ii) mobility in Phuentsholing Thromde improved; (iii) urban management strengthened and capacity of urban public officials strengthened for public awareness in health and hygiene and project management and implementation. The Project's design and monitoring framework was updated through a minor-change in scope approved in October 2018, to better reflect the ongoing activities. Of these outputs involve the construction of three infrastructure investments: (i) construction of a 12 million liter per day (MLD) and WWTP in Thimphu (Component A); (ii) construction of a bridge over the river Om-Chhu in Phuentsholing (Component B). Component B also includes the construction of 0.17km of approach road, roundabout and upgrading of 0.2km of existing road and (iii) construction of water intake and 2.5 MLD WTP in SamdrupJongkhar (Component C). SSMR is prepared to monitor the Social safeguards compliances of these three infrastructures (Component A, B and C). This SSMR is prepared for the period May 2020 to October 2020.

Table 1: Description of performance indicators (infrastructure investments) under Outputs 1a 1b and 2

Output 1a and 2: Water supply and sanitation infrastructure in SamdrupJongkhar and Thimphu Thromdes improved	By 2020: In SamdrupJongkhar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,000 households served with improved quality and quantity of water; and • five public schools and one general hospital served with improved quality and quantity of water. In Thimphu: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 MLD of treated wastewater capacity provided; • 4,285 households served by centralized sewerage system; and • 13 public schools and 6 health centers served by centralized sewerage system.
Output 1b: Mobility in Phuentsholing Thromde improved	By 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.17km of road constructed; • One bridge built over the river Om-Chhu; • 0.2km of roads upgraded; and • road maintenance equipment provided.

Safeguard Categorization

7. According to SPS 2009, the Project is categorized as "*Category B*" for involuntary resettlement under Component A and B and "*Category C*" for indigenous people safeguards. Output 1a and 1b have some involuntary resettlement impacts. Out of 3 displaced staff in Phuentsholing Thromde (output 1b), two staff are currently working on muster roll (considered as temporary staff) and one as a permanent staff.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A. Component A: Construction of a 12 million liter per day (MLD) Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Thimphu (Output 1a)

8. The contract was awarded to M/s Technofab-Vishwa JV on 20 October 2016 by Thimphu Thromde. The implementing agency (Thimphu Thromde) desires that the works known as *Design Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) 12 MLD Waste Water Treatment Plant at Thimphu, Bhutan (Contract Package No. TCC/WWTP/GM/001)*, should be executed by the Contractor, and has accepted a bid by the Contractor for the design, execution, completion and operation and maintenance of these works for 5 (five) years including 1 (one) year defects liability period (DLP) and remedying of any defects therein. (Source: *Direct excerpt from the Contract Agreement signed on 20 October 2016*).

9. The WWTP site was visited on 2 November 2020 guided by the Project Engineer, PIU and Project Engineer, Technofab-Vishwa JV. During site visit, the construction works of almost all the infrastructures are 96% complete. Staff quarter building (100%) and administration laboratory building (100%) complete. The rest of the Design and Engineering works are 96% complete. The overall progress (i) Administrative building physical progress work is 100% complete (ii) Staff quarter building on physical work is 100% complete (iii) Electrical building on physical progress work is 100% complete (iv) SBR structure work is 100% complete (v) Blower & Chlorination building work is 99% complete (vi) Centrifuge building on physical progress work is 100% complete (vii) Sludge Thicker work is 98% complete and (viii) DI Pipe line (1000mm DIA) is 100% complete.

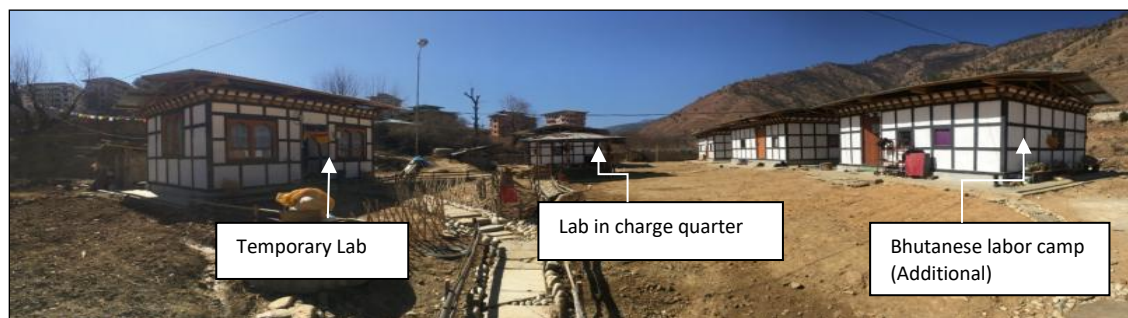
10. During recent site visit on 2 November 2020, DI Pipe layout and fencing work was observed to be 100% complete.

11. The labor camp adjacent to the construction site is observed well maintained. The camp was segregated into two types, one for Bhutanese staff and laborers and the other for laborers from India. The reason for segregation of labor camp is that the Bhutanese staff was residing in the camp along with their family members. The basic amenities such as supply of clean drinking water, toilets (8) and an electricity connection were also facilitated and maintained. Currently, there are altogether 10 Bhutanese laborers and 14 Indian laborers residing in the labor camps. As far as PIU staff is concerned, there are total of 4 staff (all male) including driver. The strength of both Bhutanese and Indian staff/labor strength is reducing as the works are progressing and near completion.

12. During a site visit in the month of August 2018, it was observed one staff (Lab In-charge) from Thimphu Thromde working for 19 years as In-charge cum Lab technician was affected and displaced from the government quarter. He was allotted similar type of government quarter for his accommodation free of cost. Since the Project is categorized as “*Category B*” Project, Resettlement Planning (RP) document was prepared and submitted to ADB.

13. The recent location of the staff (Lab In-charge) quarter is shown in **photograph 1**.


Photograph 1: Lab In-charge quarter (Photograph taken on November 2020)



Photograph 2: Google map of the entire WWTP sites at Babesa, Thimphu



Table 2: Details of Displaced Persons (DPs) under Component A, Output 1a (Thimphu Thromde) updated on 2 November 2020

SI No.	Name of Displaced person	Age	Sex	Education	Designation	No of year served in WWTP, Babesa, Thimphu Thromde	Family	Salary (Nu)	Nationality	Pictures (Pictures of DPs taken on 24 Jan 2017)	Remarks
1	Mr. Pema Khandu	42	Male	Certificate level (CI VIII from RTC, Kharbandi)	Lab In-charge	19 years (Since 2001)	5	903.33/day (27,100 per month)	Bhutanese		Currently working with Thromde as Lab In-charge at WWTP, Babesa. He is currently in grade 8.

Mr. Pema Khandu

Note: Mr. Pema Khandu has attended several trainings and work shop related to WWTP particularly in abroad so therefore, it may be wise to retain him at the WWTP site as an In-charge. In order to handle the new equipment, it may be necessary to provide him some training related to WWTP maintenance and use of new equipment. This depends on the Royal Civil Service Commission's (RCSC) transfer requirement rules.

Explanatory note: (i) The displaced person (DP) Mr. Pema Khandu is a lab in-charge at the WWTP, Babesa since 2001. His monthly salary is Nu. 27,100 per month which means his daily earning is Nu. 903.33/day. His spouse (wife) is working as a sweeper at the same site at WWTP earning Nu. 8,580/month. He has two daughters and one son and two are students and one daughter enrolled at VTI for tailoring course and completed. (ii) As far as Relocation and Rehabilitation is concerned, no transitional allowances were paid instead transportation was provided by the Thimphu Thromde (TT) for shifting of belongings to his new location which is hardly about 0.5km from his original place. In the process, no daily wages were deducted which as a result no temporary economic impact during relocation were foreseen. After shifting to his new place of accommodation, he was able to continue with his previous job. Since the relocation happened within 0.5km, children were able to access the same school without any hurdles.

In terms of Income and Expenditure pattern, the combined earning by both husband and wife total monthly income is Nu. 35,680/month. The total family members are 5 and per person per head monthly income is Nu. 7,136.00 which is way above the poverty line which according to the World Bank 2017 Bhutan Living Standards Survey (BLSS) Report and 2017 Poverty Analysis Report (PAR) is Nu. 2,195.95 per person per month. The poverty line representing the level of consumption needed to secure the necessities of life, is obtained by adding estimated food and non-food requirements of Nu.1, 473.45 and Nu.722.50.

14. The Technofab-Vishwa JV has erected one signpost near to the site office and one extra at a strategic place along the Thimphu-Babesa highway. The existing signpost near to the site office and at Thimphu - Babesa highway is still standing as shown in **photograph 3 and 4**.

Photograph 3: Sign post at the Project site



Photograph 4: Sign post at the Babesa highway



B. Component B: Construction of a bridge over the river Om Chhu in Phuentsholing- (Output 1b)

15. The contract work was awarded to M/s Tundi Construction Pvt. Ltd, Nepal for the construction of both 46.8m span PC Girder Bridge and Approach Road on 10April 2015. However, the contract for the construction of bridge had to be re-tendered after facing a difficult to drive the pile as the bridge was designed for a pile foundation, with 78 piles in total. Besides, the bridge had a center pier (at 23m) and there was a risk of bridge getting toppled/covered by the flash flood.

16. During site visit on 10July 2017, the approach road works on both banks of Om-Chhu had been completed and handed over to the PIU, Phuentsholing Thromde.

17. For the construction of 46.8 m span PC Girder Bridge, the contract work was awarded to M/s Bhutan Builders on 20July 2017 and the civil work is complete. During site visit on 14June 2019, the construction work of 46.8 m span Girder Bridge was 100% complete. Since the

construction of 46.8 m span PC Girder Bridge is 100% complete, further site visit was not necessary. However, the detail shall be reflected in Project Completion Report.

Photograph 5: The completed 46.8 m span Girder Bridge, Phuentsholing



Table 3: Summary table of identified impacts and mitigation actions

SI no	Thimphu Thromde (Output 1a)	Phuentsholing Thromde (Output 1b)	SamdrupJongkhar Thromde (Output 2)
1	One staff working as in-charge cum lab technician at WWTP site was affected and relocated to new housing near (0.5km) to the Project site. The new staff quarter was observed to be provided with all the basic amenities. The Resettlement Planning (RP) document was prepared and submitted to ADB since the Project is categorized as “Category B” Project.	Out of three displaced persons, two were working on muster roll (temporary staff) for Phuentsholing Thromde and one as a permanent staff. All the displaced persons were observed well relocated. The details of the three displaced persons have been reflected in Resettlement Planning (RP) document.	There is no social impact under Package 1 and 2 in water intake site (construction of intake weir), raw water transmission and WTP.

18. Under output 1a, one staff was affected and under output 1b, three staff working on muster roll (temporary employment) and one as permanent staff were affected and relocated to better housing as compared to their previous dwellings. The three displaced staff were interviewed on 14June 2019 and no grievances have been reported. During visit to Phuentsholing Thromde on 24January 2017, the three displaced persons were interviewed, and their details reflected in Resettlement Planning document. In Feb 2018 site visit, all three displaced persons were residing in their previous location and Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) was explained to each of the displaced persons. An additional interview survey with the displaced persons (DPs) was carried out in August 2018 and their detail socio-economic profile as explanatory note was prepared. On 14June 2019, further interview survey with the displaced persons was carried out and observed no grievances.

19. No further interview survey was carried out with the affected persons while updating this SSMR under Component B as the Project handing/taking over has already been taken place. However, under Component A, interview (one-on-one) survey with the Project affected person have been carried out to update the status.

Table 4: List of sub-projects with resettlement and /or Indigenous Peoples (IP) impacts

	Project activities			Remarks
	Component A (WWTP- Output 1a)	Component B (Bridge- Output 1b)	Component C (WTP- Output 2)	
Sub-Project with resettlement impacts	One staff working as in-charge cum Lab technician was displaced. He is now relocated in a better housing adjacent to the Project site (0.5km) and satisfied as the new area is appropriate due to less smell. Besides, accommodation was provided free of cost by Thimphu thromde.	Three staff working with Phuentsholing Thromde were displaced. They were relocated to a better location and housing. The details of the three displaced staff have been reflected in the Resettlement Planning document.	No resettlement impacts have been observed. DDR was prepared for access road and WTP as combined package and submitted to ADB.	
Indigenous Peoples (IP) impacts	None	None	None	The Project will not have any impact on Indigenous Peoples (IPs).

Table 5: Entitlement Matrix

	Type of Application	Entitled	Compensation Policy	Implementation Issues	Responsible Agency
1	Loss of residential structure	Three thromde staff	1. Provision of alternative accommodation within Thromde premises. 2. Rights to salvage materials by Affected Persons. 3. Provision of six months' notice.	No demolition of structures will begin before affected persons (APs) are satisfactorily relocated and provided transportation to shift the household goods prior to start of civil works.	IA will ensure that alternate staff quarters for the APs who are relocated prior to Project implementation.
2	Additional assistance to vulnerable	Vulnerable APs	1. Commercial Structure/Space: Lump sum rental assistance for 2 months. Current rental rate is required as the APs were given free accommodation.	Vulnerable households will be identified during the census.	IA will identify vulnerable households, allocate replacement land, confirm rental assistance, and confirm lost income.
3	APs/all impacts	Entitled Persons	1. Livelihood: Vulnerable APs will be entitle for compensation.	Not applicable	IA/PIU
4	Loss or disruption of common resources	Community local body	1. Replacement or restoration of affected community facilities such as toilet blocks, cultural resources, etc. 2. Enhancement of community resources.	Not applicable	IA to determine the extent of losses or disruption, and ensure contractor performs restoration.
5	Any other loss not identified		Unanticipated involuntary impacts will be documented and mitigated based on the principles provided in ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement 2009.	Not identified and hence not applicable.	IA

C. Component C: Construction of water intake and 2.5 MLD Water Treatment Plant in SamdrupJongkhar (Output 2)

20. The contract work was awarded on 10 June 2016 to M/s Tundi Construction Pvt. Ltd, Nepal and M/s Tacho Construction Pvt. Ltd, Bhutan (Tundi-Tacho joint venture, Thimphu) for the construction of 2.5 MLD WTP and water supply works under SamdrupJongkhar Thromde. The site visit accompanied by Env. Consultant and Project Manager, PIU, SJT was carried out on 21 May 2020, and civil works namely Intake weir (100% complete), Access road (100% complete) and WTP (98% complete and remaining 2% is for auto commissioning which is pending. (*Source: Project Manager, PIU, SJM, May 2020*).

21. According to Project Engineer, auto commissioning of both intake weir and WTP has to be carried out and handing/taking over of intake and transmission mains shall take place by the Thromde. The contractor will operate the manual operation and maintain the WTP for 2 years (*Source: The Project Manager, PIU, SJM, May 2020*).

22. The HIV awareness campaign was conducted on 25 Jan 2018 at the WTP Project site. The minutes of the meeting and photographs were taken during the HIV awareness campaign was documented. Hence, no further HIV/AIDS campaign is required.

23. It was observed that after pre-commissioning and handing/taking work, it is recommended that there should be one guard taking care of the intake weir esp. at the pond site. This is required to avoid occurrences of mishaps.

Photograph 6: Overall view of intake weir (*Photograph taken on 9 November 2020*)



24. The WTP construction work is (100% completed in March 2020) complete. However, during site visit in May 2020, it was observed that clarifier tank was kept open with no protective shed. Therefore, during monsoon season and from safety point of view it is assumed not safe. It is however recommended to construct a shed to avoid any unprecedented mishaps.

Photograph 7: The completed photograph of WTP (*Photograph taken on 7 Nov 2020*)



Photograph 8: Google map of Intake and WTP, S/jongkhar



COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION

25. Since the Project is not going to have an impact on private land, structures or any other form of private assets, no compensation against loss of privately-owned assets was required. The anticipated impact was loss of government property (staff housing) and relocation impact to the users (government staff). The proposed mitigation measure was on provision of alternate accommodation with the requisite infrastructure facilities to the affected persons.

26. During consultation meeting on 10 June 2019 with the PIU staff, SJM, the issue of clogged drainage system caused by the Project activities was raised by the people residing adjacent to the WTP Project site. The drainage system was clogged due to the Project activities resulting in mosquito breeding and emission of foul smell due to stagnant water. This issue was discussed with the contractor at WTP site during the subsequent site visit on the same day. The contractor agreed that the restoration of the drainage system would be carried out and complied. During site visit on 21 May 2020, no grievances from the aggrieved party was reported.

Relocation and Rehabilitation

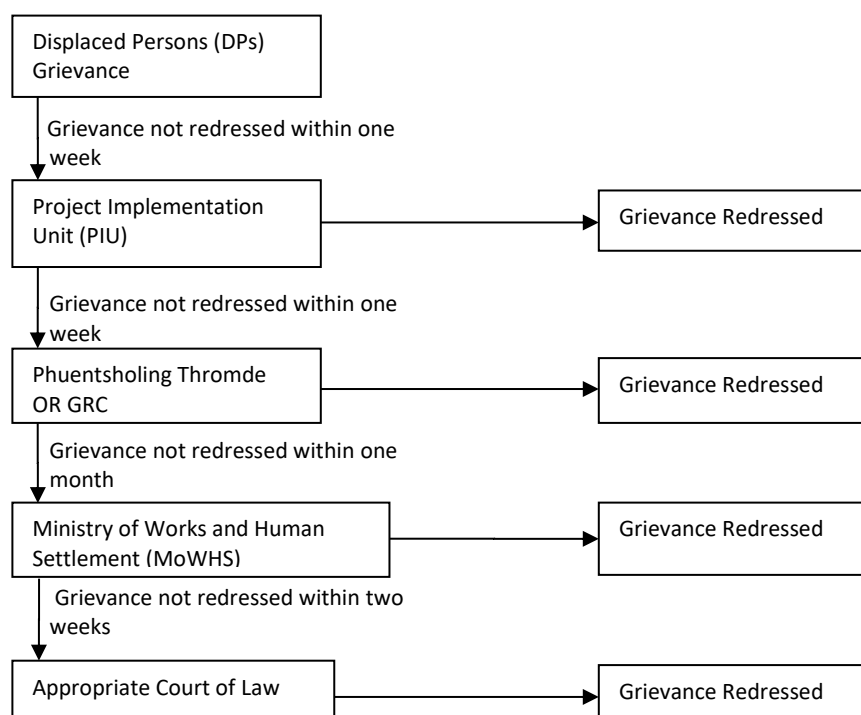
27. The Project will not affect any private property and no compensation and rehabilitation is required although under output 1b, three staff working with Phuentsholing Thromde were displaced and relocated in a better location near to the Thromde office. They were provided with alternate accommodation and access to all the required basic amenities such as water supply and electricity. Under out 1a, one staff was displaced and relocated within the premises of WWTP and provided with alternate accommodation and access to basic amenities such as water supply and electricity.

D. PROJECT DISCLOSURE, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATION

28. Public consultation and information disclosure are an integral part of the environmental and social assessment process. During Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) study, detail socio-economic survey was conducted followed by public consultation. The follow-up public consultation was carried out in Phuentsholing and SamdrupJongkhar Thromde although majority of the people residing in SamdrupJongkhar and Phuentsholing Thromde are well aware of the ADB Project. Nevertheless, public information on HIV awareness raising campaigns on the importance of the Project linking it to health, gender, social empowerment has also been conducted in all the PIUs in the beginning of 2018. The focal agencies to conduct the awareness campaign were PMU, PIUs of Thimphu, Phuentsholing and SamdrupJongkhar Thromde. The health and hygiene awareness and consultation and participation in all the three PIUs were conducted by the Price Waterhouse Coopers Pvt. Ltd (PwC) Consultants. A brief discussion with the PwC consultants on the progress of three PIUs was carried out in the office of Project Manager, PMU. Issues discussed were particularly on the subject matter on the GAP. The earlier prepared GAP was also shared with the PwC consultants. As of Dec 2019, no public consultations were held as the Project under three components were towards completion except for component A.

GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM (GRM)

Figure 1: Grievance Redressal Mechanisms (GRM)



29. All complaints in writing and all proceedings related to complaints will be recorded and documented. The document will be useful in modifying procedures in future. The functions of the Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) are: (i) to support the displaced persons (particularly non-

titled and vulnerable displaced persons) on problems related to the eligibility for entitlements and assistance provided; (ii) to record grievances from displaced persons and to categorize, prioritize and solve them within an appropriate time; and (iii) to inform the Project Steering Committee (PSC) of unresolved cases within an appropriate timeframe.

30. During recent PIU visit on 2Nov 2020 (Component A), the displaced person was briefly interviewed and observed no grievances.

31. All costs incurred in resolving the grievances will be borne by the Project including expenses incurred by members while attending the meetings. The PSC will meet when the grievance is not resolved by the PIUs within one week, they will be given notice of the meeting, the need to determine the merit of the grievance, and resolve the grievance within a month of receiving the notice for the meeting. Further grievances can be referred by the displaced persons to the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement (MoWHS) and if not satisfied with the decision may further approach to the appropriate court of law if at all necessary. As far as component A and B are concerned, no complaint/grievances from any project affected persons have been reported to the PM, PIUs.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

32. The Department of Engineering Services (DES) of the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement (MOWHS) is the Executing Agency (EA) responsible for implementing the Project. The Executing Agency (EA) has been established as Project Management Unit (PMU) within the Department of Engineering Services (DES) and is headed by a Project Manager. The PMU is supported by a team of Consultants, Project Management Consultants (PMC), and is in-charge of overall execution and implementation of the Project. The PMU is responsible for planning, monitoring and reporting on the Project, as well as for general cost and quality control. The Project Implementation Units (PIUs) have been established in Thimphu, Phuentsholing and SamdrupJongkhar Thromdes.

MONITORING RESULTS-FINDINGS

Component A: WWTP, Thimphu: (Output 1a)

33. The team consisting of Social Safeguards Consultant and Environmental Specialist from the DMSC accompanied by the Project Manager, PIU Thimphu Thromde had carried out discussion pertaining to WWTP under BHU- 2816 ADB Project on 29 May 2020. The discussion was followed by detailed site visit guided by the Project Engineer, Technofab-Vishwa JV and Project Engineer, PIU Thimphu.

34. Following the site visit, the Project was categorized as “*Category B*” Project as one staff working as a lab in-charge cum care taker was displaced and has been properly relocated within the premises besides being provided with all basic amenities.

Findings

The findings are outlined below;

The 2.5 acres land for the construction of 12 MLD WWTP is confirmed as government land.

- (a) The site office accommodating PIU and Technofab staff is well set-up/constructed by the Technofab-Vishwa JV near construction site;
- (b) There are currently 18 Indian laborers and 22 Bhutanese laborers from Bhutan both skilled and non-skilled working at the Project sites;
- (c) As far as labor camp is concerned, there are two types of labor camp set-up by the Contractor such as separate labor camps for laborers from India and separate for Bhutanese workers and staff. The reason being that the three Bhutanese staff are residing with families and facilitated with toilet;
- (d) The labor camps are supplied with clean drinking water with separate toilets (8 nos.) and free electricity; and
- (e) As on November 2020, the overall physical work progress according to the Project Engineer, Technofab-Vishwa JV is 96% complete.

Component B: Bridge in Phuentsholing (Output 1b)

35. During preliminary design phase in August 2013, site visits and several rounds of stakeholders' consultations was carried out together with Environmental Specialist and Engineering team members. The sites on the left and right bank of Om-Chhu were thoroughly studied. On the right and left bank of Om-Chhu, the Project had affected three families and displaced. The details of the affected assets and displaced staff were documented and disclosed in the Resettlement Plan prepared for Component B. After site visit and verification, the Project was confirmed and categorized as "*Category B*" Project. On 24Jan 2017, the displaced staff were interviewed, and the Resettlement Planning document was prepared. On 1Feb 2018, the displaced staff were met and explained about the Grievance Redressal Mechanisms (GRM) on a 'one-on-one basis. During site visit on 14June 2019, all the displaced families/staff were observed to be in the same place and satisfied with the basic amenities provided to them by the Thromde. Site visit to other PIUs (Component A on 21May 2020 and Component C on 29May 2020) was conducted except for Component B where handing/taking had already been completed. However, the detail of the displaced staff shall be reflected in the Project Completion Report once the overall work under Component A and B is complete.

Findings

36. The contract work was awarded to M/s Tundi Construction Pvt. Ltd, Nepal for the construction of 46.8m span PC Girder Bridge and Approach Road on 10April 2016. However, the contract for the construction of bridge had to be re-tendered after facing a difficulty to drive the piles . The site was visited in August 2016 and the civil works were mobilized. There were non-Bhutanese (laborers from India) working at the Project sites. Three families from the FHHs earlier recruited were not seen working at the Project sites as the Project works was about to be completed and only skilled laborers were mobilized by the Contractor. During site visit on 10 July 2017, the approach roads on both right and left bank of Om-Chhu river was complete and handed over to the PIU Phuentsholing Thromde. The second package for the construction of 46.8m span PC Girder Bridge was awarded to M/s Bhutan builders. During site visit in Feb 2018, the Project Manager of M/s Bhutan builders affirmed that there are 39 laborers from India and 19 Bhutanese workers which include one Bhutanese female site engineer. During site visit in the month of Aug 2018 observed no Indian laborers seen working at the Project site due to

disturbances by heavy monsoon. The Project Engineer reported that the construction work will start beginning of Sept 2018. The contractor was working on procurement of materials. During site visit on 14 June 2019, the approach roads and Girder Bridge construction work was completed and handed over to PIU, P/ling Thromde.

Component C: Water Treatment Plant (WTP), SamdrupJongkhar (Output 2)

37. The Design, Monitoring and Supervision Consultant (DMSC) team members consisting of Team Leader, Deputy Team Leader, Water Engineer, Geo-tech Engineer, Environmental Specialist and Safeguard/Gender Specialist visited the sites led/guided by the Project Manager on 19 November 2013. The proposed sites were visited to study the social related issues to ascertain and to document possible impacts on private assets such as private lands, fruit trees, structures or any other social related issues. The sites that were finally proposed have been re-visited on 14 February 2014 to confirm and validate/document any social issues. After the fact findings and validation on 19 January 2017, the Social Due Diligence Report for SamdrupJongkhar Thromde was prepared in February 2017 ensuring that there is no impact on any private assets. The combined DDR for WTP, intake and access road was prepared in Sept 2019 and re-submitted to ADB for clearance.

38. After site visit and verification, it was confirmed that there does not have any resettlement impact. The construction of intake weir, pipe layout to WTP and for the construction of WTP are booked under package 1 and 2 and overall status of intake weir (100% complete) and WTP (98% complete). However, remaining 2% work is not done yet by the contractor due to none availability of the concern professional who is based in Kolkata. (Reference: as per the information from contractor). The MoWHS and SamdrupJongkhar thromde had given all necessary assistance to the contractor to bring the expatriate from India but couldn't accomplished. *(Source: through email from the PM, PIU, S/Jongkhar)*

Findings

39. The contract work for Construction of 2.5 MLD WTP and Water Supply Works for SamdrupJongkhar Thromde was awarded to M/s Tundi Construction Pvt. Ltd, Nepal and M/s Tacho Construction Pvt. Ltd, Bhutan (Tundi-Tacho joint venture, Thimphu) (repeating) and mobilization work commenced from 1 May 2016. The site was visited with Env. Specialist, Project Manager and Project Engineer of PIU SJT on 9 August 2016 and observed that no construction work was mobilized. On 19 January 2017, the construction works on both intake weir and WTP was observed to be progressing rapidly. The site engineer of M/s. Tacho Construction was briefed on ADB safeguard compliance in line with ADB SPS 2009 such as maintaining core labor standard and hiring of child laborers which should be avoided. The labor camps were well established and provided with basic amenities.

40. During the site visit in Jan 2018, the intake weir was found to have been 95% completed while it was 76% (civil works) complete at the WTP. However, in August 2018 it was observed that the water at the intake weir was overflowing above the gate due to blockage caused by logs and debris. The intake weir and the WTP were visited on 10 June 2019 during which time the construction works at both the intake weir was 95% complete and WTP 76% complete. It was also observed that the approach road from the highway to the intake weir was on-going and 60% completed. During site visit on 21 May 2020, both the package 1 (100%) and package 2 (98%) complete. The auto commissioning work for both package 1 and 2 were not carried out. Once auto commissioning work is complete then only handing/taking work shall be carried out. *(Source: Project Manager, PIU, SJM, May 2020).*

COMPLIANCE STATUS

Component A (WWTP): Output 1a

41. The contract work was awarded to M/s Technofab-Vishwa JV on 20 October 2019 and the construction work of staff quarter building (100% complete) and administrative laboratory building (99% complete). The site visits on 2 Nov 2020 observed that the staff quarter and admin building was 100% complete. The displaced Lab-In charge cum care taker is well relocated within the premises of the current site and provided with all basic amenities. The site was visited on 2 November 2020 accompanied by the Project Manager, PIU, TT and observed 96% complete. The remaining 4% works are incomplete due to COVID-19 Pandemic;

- odor control machine (automatic); and
- two sludge carrying trucks (Tata company) are still at Kolkata, India.

Component B (Approach road and Bridge construction): Output 1b

42. The contract work was awarded to M/s Tundi Construction Pvt. Ltd, Nepal for the construction of 46.8m span PC Girder Bridge and Approach Road on 10 April 2015. The site was visited on 12 August 2016 and observed the civil works were on-going. There were non-Bhutanese (laborers from India) working in the Project sites. Three females were observed working at the Project sites and a quick interview survey was carried out with the individual female workers and noted their wages were Nu. 270/day which was amended by the contractors and accepted according to core labor standard. The contract for the construction of bridge had to be re-tendered due to deficiency in the design of bridge and was awarded to M/s Bhutan Builders Pvt. Ltd in July 2017, at which point the social safeguards issues were already resolved. There were no pending social safeguards issues at the site and both the approach roads and girder bridge construction works were complete and handed over to PIU, P/ling Thromde.

Component C (WTP): Output 2

43. The contract work was awarded to M/s Tundi Construction Pvt. Ltd, Nepal and M/s Tacho Construction Pvt. Ltd, Bhutan (Tundi-Tacho joint venture, Thimphu) on 18 April 2016 for the construction of 2.5 MLD WTP and Water supply works under Samdrup Jongkhar Thromde. The commissioning of WTP is pending due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Component A: Output 1a

44. Follow up actions on updating GAP and SSMR have been carried out on a semi-annual basis. An awareness raising activities targeting contractors and laborers on the risks of HIV and compliance with core labor standards which is elimination/discrimination in employment, especially on providing equal pay for work of equal value and elimination of child labor was conducted on 24 January 2018 and thus no follow-up action is required on HIV/AIDS awareness campaign.

Recommendations:

The contractor should follow the following clauses such as;

- hiring/recruitment of more National women workforce;
- provide gender responsive, HIV/AIDS and human trafficking awareness;
- provide free accommodation with proper sanitation, safe drinking water and electricity;

- ensure implementation of core labor standards to Bhutanese especially the provision on equal wages for both men and women;
- hiring of child labor should be avoided, irrespective of nationality (how about putting it this way ?); and
- minimize noise and dust pollution.

45. The Project Management and Information System (PMIS) is maintained by each PIU assisted by the DMSC Safeguard and Gender Specialist in order to keep track of the Project activities. Later, it was agreed that the PMIS shall be maintained by the Social Development (GAD) Consultant, BHRM, Asian Development Bank for all the PIUs. The contractor established labor camps adjacent to the Project sites and the land is confirmed as government land. As on 10Nov 2020, there were no female workers at the Project site as the work was near completion and required only the skilled laborers.

Component B: Output 1b

46. During site visit on 14June 2019, the construction work of girder bridge was complete and handed over to the PIU, P/ling Thromde. In order to ascertain the status of displaced families working with P/ling Thromde, all of them were satisfied with their new location where all the basic amenities such as water and electricity supply was provided by the Thromde.

Component C: Output 2

47. In August 2018, the status of the construction work was observed to be 76% complete at the WTP while it was 95% complete at the Intake weir. The overall work was scheduled to be complete by end of October 2017 but was extended until the end of April 2018. An additional time extension was given to the contractor till 15November 2018. During site visit on 10June 2019, the construction works were noticed as on-going. According to Project Manager, PIU, SJM, the contractor will have to pay Liquidated damages (LD) as per contract.

48. During site visit and consultation meeting on 10June 2019 with the PIU staff, SJM, the issue of clogged drainage system caused by the project activities was raised by the people residing adjacent to the WTP project site. The drainage system has been clogged due to the project activities resulting in mosquito breeding and emission of foul smell due to stagnant water. Accordingly, this issue was discussed with the contractor during the subsequent site visit to the WTP. The contractor agreed that the restoration of the drainage system would be carried out and complete by end June 2019 and complied now. During site visit in May 2020, the intake weir was 100% complete whereas WTP was 98% complete. The remaining 2% work under WTP is kept for auto commissioning which is pending due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

COVID-19 Safety Precautionary measures for COVID-19 Pandemic at the WWTP site, Babesa

Component A: During site on 2 November 2020, the Project Engineer, Technofab-Vishwa JV reported that there are presently 18 Indian workers including engineers from India and all Indian workers/Engineers have obtained ID out pass (Covid-19 certificate/pass). All the Indian workers are required to carry the ID



(out pass) while going out of the WWTP premise to vegetable market, shops, hospital etc. The sample ID out pass Druk trace is attached in Photographs. The administrative building at the WWTP site also has Druk Trace App to contact tracing the visitors visiting the office. The sample photograph is attached for reference. The administrative building at WWTP, Babesa also facilitated with hot/cold/normal water filter/dispenser for the workers. Further, admin building also has the facility of tap water (3 nos.) for hand washing purpose. Since the project is 96% complete and only 4% work for auto commissioning (trial run), procurement of odor control machine and 2 nos. sludge carrying machine is pending.

Appendix 1: GAP Implementation Monitoring Report

GAP Implementation Monitoring Report Kingdom of Bhutan: Urban Infrastructure Project (Loan 2816)

Date Prepared: June 2020 to Nov 2020 and updated in Nov 2020

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GAP Activities and Targets/Indicators	Progress to Date		Issues, Challenges, Remarks
	Progress for the Quarter (Oct 2019 to May 2020)	Cumulative Progress (From Project start to May 2020)	
Output 1. Water supply infrastructure rehabilitated in SamdrupJongkhar Municipality and Waste Water Treatment Plant constructed in Thimphu Municipality			
Activity 1: Develop audio visual presentation (educational video) on: (i) the importance of health and hygiene; (ii) women's special roles in maintaining the household's health, and the means by which they ensure access to clean water and sanitation, and (iii) how the project contributes to achieving health and hygiene by ensuring clean water and sanitation.	Videos on how to dispose solid waste and how to keep septic tank operational for regular desludging were developed by PwC Consultants.		Activity completed
Target/Indicator 1: Educational video on the social/gender-related aspects of access to water supply and sanitation produced			
Activity 2: Conduct public awareness raising seminars/meetings on the importance of the project and its link to health and hygiene in Thimphu and SamdrupJongkhar Municipalities	A public consultation was organized in Jan 2018 in SJM. Only two participants (2 males) however attended.	• Total of four community seminars in SJM with a total of 79 participants, at least 48 (61%) women. • Total of two community seminars in TM with a total of 107 participants, 38 (36%) were women.	Activity completed Target achieved
Target/Indicator 2: Two seminars held per municipality with a total of 120 participants, at least 33% women			
Activity 3: Prepare and post educational signposts focusing on the project and on its health and sanitation benefits in both municipalities	Signpost erected	• One educational signpost erected at 4.0 km distance from WTP Project site in S/Jongkhar. • One educational signpost erected at the WWTP Project site in Thimphu.	Activity completed Target achieved
Target/Indicator 3: At least one educational signpost posted in a strategic place in each municipality			
Activity 4: Identify the women-headed households in SamdrupJongkhar	Complied	• In SJM, a total of 44 FHHs were identified, of which 3 are categorized as poor with monthly income less than Nu. 2,195.95/person/month.	Activity completed
Target/Indicator 4: Roster of women-headed households developed for project-covered areas in SamdrupJongkhar			
Activity 5: Ensure implementation of core labor standards for workers employed in construction and rehabilitation work in water supply and Sanitation infrastructure in SamdrupJongkhar and Thimphu, especially the provision on equal wages for both men and women	Complied	March 2016: • Complied with SBD Clause. Jan - Feb 2018: • No child laborers were engaged at the Project sites in all the PIUs. This is	Activity completed
Target/Indicator 5: Implementation of core labor standards,			

GAP Activities and Targets/Indicators	Progress to Date		Issues, Challenges, Remarks
	Progress for the Quarter (Oct 2019 to May 2020)	Cumulative Progress (From Project start to May 2020)	
especially equal wages for equal work of men and women included in subproject contracts		considered a good practice.	
Output 2. Mobility improved in Phuentsholing Municipality			
Activity 6: Ensure implementation of core labor standards for all workers of the project's roads and bridges construction and rehabilitation in Phuentsholing, especially the provision of the standards on equal pay for equal work of men and women	Complied	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No issues as the Contractor had complied following the core labor standards, especially the provision of the standards on equal pay for equal work for both men and women.	Activity completed
Target/Indicator 6: Implementation of core labor standards, especially equal wages for equal of men and women included in subproject contracts			
Activity 7: Prepare and post educational signposts focusing on the project and on its health and sanitation benefits	Signposts erected already.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Two educational signposts erected adjacent to the Project sites at P/ling.	Activity completed Target achieved
Target/Indicator 7: At least one educational signpost posted in a strategic place in each municipality			
Activity 8: Identify the poor women-headed households in the project areas in Phuentsholing		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Total of 25 FHHs identified in Phuentsholing, of which 6 were considered as poor with monthly income is less than Nu. 2,195.95/person/month.	Activity completed
Target/Indicator 8: Roster of poor women-headed households in project areas in Phuentsholing developed			
Activity 9: Conduct public awareness raising seminars/meetings on the project	Jan 2018: Awareness raising campaign with the FHHs of P/ling conducted by the Social Consultant. (Female: 12 attended the meeting).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">At least three public awareness raising seminars held with 76 participants, 43 or 57% women.	Activity completed Target achieved
Target/Indicator 9: Two seminars with a total of 60 participants, at least 33% women			
Output 4: Capacity strengthened for public awareness in health and hygiene; project management and implementation are strengthened			
Activity 10: Employ at least 25% women in project management and implementation	Current Staff strength of the PIUs; SamdrupJongkhar: Male: 2 (100% male) Thimphu: Male: 4 (100% male) Phuentsholing: Male: 1(100% male)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The three PIUs have a total of 7 Male staff.	Target achieved
Target/Indicator 10: At least 25% of the PMU staff and the staff of each PIU are women			
Activity 11: Ensure participation of women staff in the trainings on project planning, design, and implementation	Overall, 12 trainings on various aspects were carried out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A total of 12 training activities were held on urban management and O&M of urban infrastructure, specifically on (i) Road Survey and Design (ii) Electrical Design and Estimation (iii) Basic AutoCAD (iv) CMS	Activity completed Target achieved

GAP Activities and Targets/Indicators	Progress to Date		Issues, Challenges, Remarks
	Progress for the Quarter (Oct 2019 to May 2020)	Cumulative Progress (From Project start to May 2020)	
Target/Indicator 11: At least 140 staff trained on project planning, design, and implementation (100% eligible women staff trained)		(v) Liscad and Road Max (vi) Basic AutoCAD (vii) Basic quality control test (viii) Administration skills Development (ix) Basic quality control test (x) Contract mgt (xi) GIS (xii) study visit to Nepal on bridge construction. The total number of participants was 234, of whom 45 (19%) were women. These women represent all eligible women in the agency.	
Activity 12: Engage the NCWC as a member of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to ensure that gender is sustainably mainstreamed in the project		• NCWC has been engaged as a PSC member since mid-2017.	Activity completed
Target/Indicator 12: NCWC engaged as a member of the PSC			
Activity 13: Train PMU and PIU staff in mainstreaming gender in urban infrastructure projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training conducted on Gender Mainstreaming at MoWHS Conference Hall on 16 November 2018. • A Gender Mainstreaming and Project Administration Training on 30 Sep 2019. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of participants was 9 from all the PIUs and PMU (6 male, 3 female). • There were 3 resource persons from MoWHS and NCWC. Total number of participants was 43 participants (30 male, 13 female). 	Activity completed.
Target/Indicator 13: One training on mainstreaming gender in urban infrastructure projects held for PMU and PIU staff and an additional training on Gender Mainstreaming Training for Executing and Implementing Agencies of ADB Projects in Bhutan			
Activity 14: Integrate GESI considerations in the public health and hygiene awareness campaign modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final report of PwC on hygiene promotion and participation strategy submitted. GESI considerations were integrated in the formulation of the strategy, e.g., ensured participation of women in the consultation sessions for the development of the strategy, hygiene and sanitation issues involving and affecting women identified, and role of women in hygiene promotion included. 	• A consulting firm was hired in July 2017 to Develop a hygiene promotion and participation strategy.	Activity completed
Target/Indicator 14: GESI considerations integrated in the public health and hygiene awareness campaign modules			
Activity 15: Incorporate gender indicator in the project management information systems		• The NCWC has agreed to include the monitoring of the performance indicators of the GAP of L2816 in their Gender Equality Monitoring System (GEMS). The NCWC GEMS shall hence serve as the gender PMIS of L2816.	Activity completed
Target/Indicator 15: PMIS developed with gender indicators and populated with sex-disaggregated data			
Activity 16: Monitor GAP implementation	GAP is updated semi-annually.		Complied

GAP Activities and Targets/Indicators	Progress to Date		Issues, Challenges, Remarks
	Progress for the Quarter (Nov 2019 to May 2020)	Cumulative Progress (From project start to May 2020)	
Target/Indicator 16: Semi-annual report on progress of GAP implementation			

Note: Highlighted in blue are the quantitative indicators

Total of 17 activities (14 or 88% completed)

DMF gender-related performance indicators

1d. 18,000 additional persons served by centralized sewerage system of which at least 15 % are households headed by women (2011 baseline: 0)

4a. Public awareness campaign on water, sanitation and hygiene promotion with clear socially inclusive and gender-sensitive messages delivered (2011 baseline: n.a)

4b. At least 183 staff trained on project planning, design, and implementation (Target: 100% eligible women staff trained) (2011 baseline: n.a)

4c. Monitoring and evaluation systems populated with sex-disaggregated data by 2018

Quantitative targets

GAP only = 6;

DMF only = 1;

Common to GAP and DMF = 1

Total of 7 quantitative indicators;

Total of quantitative targets achieved: 7/7=100%

Appendix 2: Details of Consultation and Participations (C & P) under Thimphu Thromde conducted on 2Nov 2020 (Summary)

Date	Location	Number of Participants	Particular Status	Topic Discussed	Issues/Feedback from the Participants	Remarks
Output 1a. Thimphu Thromde						
2.11.2020	Babesa	2	Displaced Person	Whether the displaced person is satisfied with his new location.	No issues nor grievances	One-on-one consultation
Output 1b. Phuentsholing Thromde						
No Public Consultation was conducted						
Output 2. SamdrupJongkhar Thromde						
No Public Consultation was conducted						