

Initial Environmental Examination

Project Number: 45508-002

May 2021

People's Republic of China: Xinjiang Integrated Urban Development Project

Addendum to the Initial Environmental Examination

Prepared by Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Government for the Asian Development Bank. This is an addendum to the draft of originally posted in January 2013 available on <https://www.adb.org/projects/documents/xinjiang-integrated-urban-development-project-iee>. Your attention is directed to the “terms of use” section on ADB’s website.

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A. Background

1. The Xinjiang Integrated Urban Development Project (Project) has three outputs, including Output 1: Improvement of Kelamayi's urban infrastructure; Output 2: Improvement of Kuitun's urban infrastructure; and Output 3: Project management and capacity building. Outputs 1 and 2 involved environmental impacts during the project implementation and operation. The construction contents of Output 1 have been completed in consistence with that designed in the project appraisal. However, some contents under the Output 2 were changed during the project implementation, which caused changes of the impacts of the output.

2. There are two components under Output 2, including: (i) rehabilitation of flood discharge ditches and channels to meet a protection standard of a 1- in 50-year flood; and planting trees along with construction of related roads for the purpose of access, ecological protection, and improved urban visual environment; and (ii) improved water management including rehabilitation of water supply pipes and significantly improved NRW management capacity. During the project implementation, a total length of 6.996 km of the flood discharge ditches/channels and 12,824 trees covering a total area of 8.6 hectares shelterbelt were completed within the jurisdiction of Kuitun City.

B. Changes

3. The component of rehabilitation of flood discharge ditches/channels consists of four existing ditches and channels including (i) East Ditch, (ii) West Ditch, (iii) South Trunk Channel, and (iv) Chunhui Channel. The four ditches/channels are located in two administrative regions, Kuitun City and Tianbei New District (TND). The southern sections of the East Ditch and West Ditch, as well as entire South Trunk Channel with a total of 6.996 km length are located in Kuitun City, while the remaining northern sections of the East and West Ditch and the entire Chunhui Channel with a total of 17.72 km located in TND.

4. Due to changes in implementing the works and absence of concrete schedule, the ditches and channels in TND were not constructed as planned, and shelterbelt tree planting as well as the road construction along the ditches/channels in TND under the component (i) were not implemented. The relevant changes were summarized as shown in below table.

Component (i)	Details	Design	Actual	Change
Rehabilitation of ditches/channels, Construction of roads and tree planting along ditches/channels	Ditches/ channels (km)	24.72	6.996	-17.724
	Planting trees (tree)	200,400	12,824	-187,576
	Occupied area of shelterbelt (ha)	83.2	8.6	-74.6
	Road construction (km)	35.71	16.719	-18.991

5. On 31 March 2021, the Xinjiang PMO submitted the formal request for the scope change to ADB. The ADB approved the change on 12 May 2021.

6. The Addendum IEE is mainly focused on the contents of the subcomponents to be removed and served the purpose of updating the calculation on the potential environmental benefit. No potential negative environmental impacts and risks were anticipated due to the removal of the subscriptions. The relevant contents defined in the original IEE, including the environment management plan (EMP), were remained applicable for other components under Output 2 and requested to be effectively implemented throughout the project implementation. The scope change will be commensurately reflected in the environment monitoring report(s) and the periodical project progress report(s), and the actual project environmental benefits and impacts will also be accordingly updated and recorded in the project completion report.

C. Reduction of the estimated Carbon Sequestration

7. In original IEE, the shelterbelt forest area under the Kuitun output of the project includes bands of trees along both sides of the rehabilitated ditches/channels. A total of 200,400 trees were supposed to be planted occupying 83.2 ha area. According to the calculation in the feasibility study report (FSR) at the project appraisal, a total of 9,360 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) were estimated to be absorbed and 2,021 tons of Oxygen (O₂) were estimated to be released each year by the forest. Based on the scope change, a total of 12,824 trees were planted accounting for 8.6 ha area shelterbelt. Based on the number of trees actually planted, a total of 599 tons of CO₂ could be proportionately absorbed and a total of 129 tons of O₂ were estimated to be commensurately released each year to contribute the carbon sequestration.