

Social Monitoring Report

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Tajikistan: Wholesale Metering and Transmission Reinforcement Project

Prepared by: AF Mercados EMI for Barki Tojik for the Asian Development Bank (ADB)

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Semi Annual Report on Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP) Implementation

1. Introduction

1. The Republic of Tajikistan has received financing (grant) from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Wholesale Metering and Transmission Reinforcement Project. Parts of this financing will be used for payments under the contract for Rehabilitation of Substation Rudaki, Extension of Substation Ayni and Construction of new 220 kV OHL between SS Ayni 220 kV and SS Rudaki; replacement of electricity meters, several current transformers and several voltage transformers, introduction of an advanced metering infrastructure, and introduction of a settlement system.

2. It is expected that the proposed project will improve electricity supply to households and industries in the country by reducing losses through metering entire high and medium voltage transmission grid and expand transmission capacity in Panjakent region presently suffering from load shedding.

2. Background of the Project and Scope

3. The Project cost of the Lot 2 includes the cost of Social Mitigation Measures. The costs associated with temporary or permanent land acquisition have been financed by Barki Tojik. The Government has been financing the taxes and duties. The Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) Wholesale Metering and Transmission Reinforcement report provides information on the following:

a) Metering Project

This does not have any scope for land acquisition and resettlement.

b) Transmission Line Project

- i. The Project of 220 kV Ayni-Panjakent line and associated substations
- ii. Engineering, social, environmental, economic and financial progress of the project including resettlement implementation.

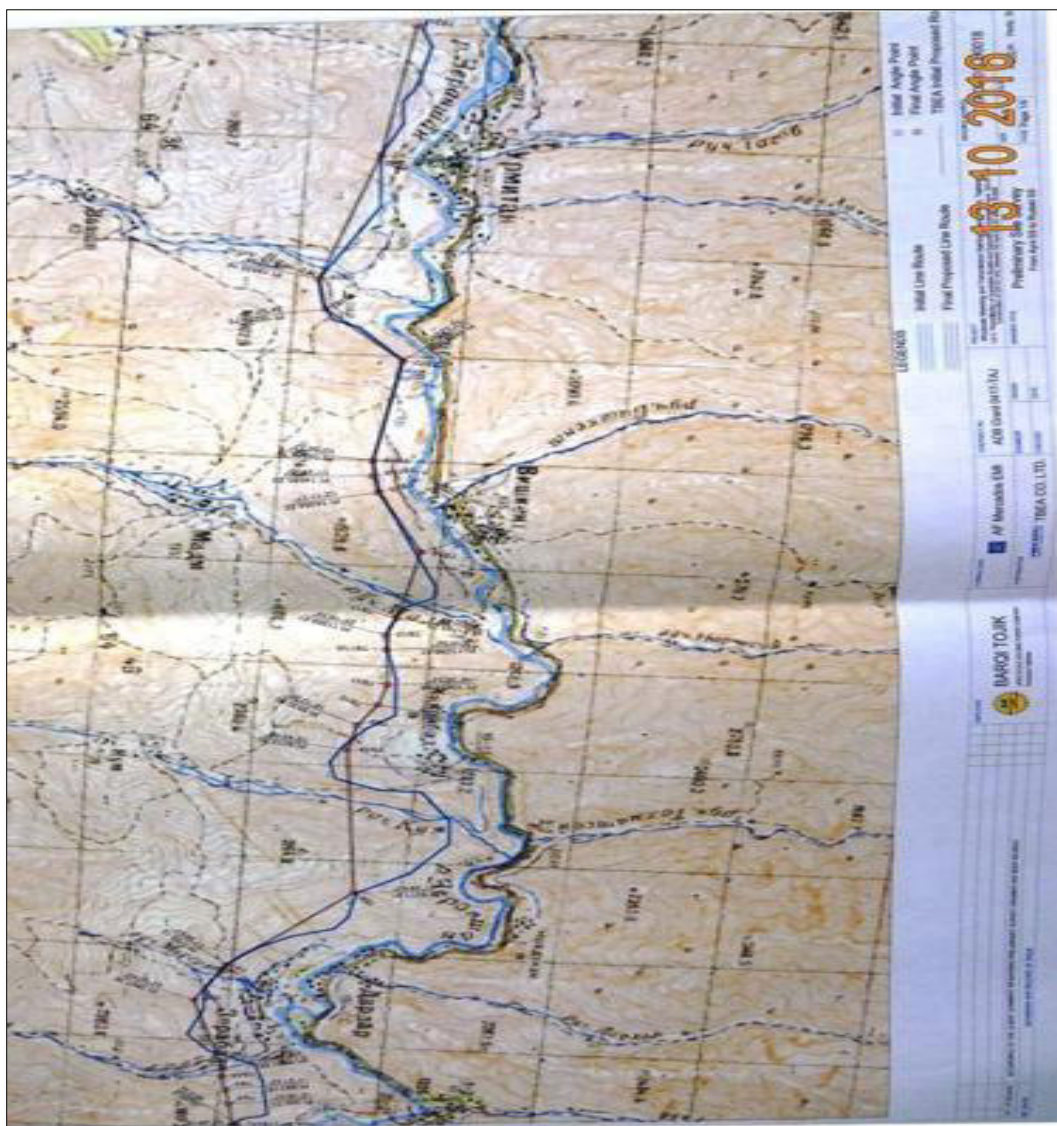


Figure 1: Location Map of the Project

4. Implementation consultants are to ensure that any land acquisition and involuntary resettlement are fully compensated and other requirements stipulated in the LARP are fully implemented before the commencement of works.

3. Project impacts

5. The whole activity during the period took place within the limits of the Substation of Rudaki, thus there wasn't any social impact during the period.



4. Land Requirements for the Transmission Lines and Substation

6. Till date the project involves no relocation and very limited land acquisition since it has been designed to avoid built-up and agricultural areas to the extent possible and the new substation is to be located on Government owned land.

5. Preparation of Resettlement Planning Documents

7. The activities related to this chapter had already been solved in previous periods of the project, there's nothing to report in this regard.

8. An additional LARP has been prepared taking into account the final design and updating of the inventory of losses, joint verification and meetings with stakeholders in the project area. The ultimate aim of this project is to have a positive impact on the lives of the project beneficiaries.

9. There wasn't any LARP development and implementation in the reporting period.

10. No activities of LARP development and implementation in the reporting period.

6. Implementation of the Resettlement Activities

11. The damages that took place during construction phases like, excavations, foundations, tower erection, stringing and sagging were all properly repaired, and the line way was cleaned of debris and the overall works left overs in order to minimize the impact of the works.



Land Acquisition Impact

12. As all the activities developed during this period have taken place on Rudaki Substation's plot there was no Land Acquisition Impact.

Crops Affected by Construction of Towers

13. As all the activities developed during this period have taken place on Rudaki Substation's plot there was no Crops Affected.

7. Public Consultation and Disclosure

14. No Public Consultation or Disclosure took place over the reported period.

8. Grievance Redress

15. There wasn't any Grievance Redress over the reported period. As the reporting period is all done within the limits of the plot of Rudaki SS and all the grievances were redressed in previous period. The GRM procedure would have worked the same way as in previous period in case it had been need be through Barqi Tojik's local office in Penjakent assisted by PMU and PIC, but as it's said above there wasn't any activity in this chapter.

9. Overall Progress of Project

Land Acquisition and Resettlement (LAR)

16. There's no remarkable event under this epigraph over this period.

10. Indigenous People

17. This Project is classified as Category C as per the SPS, as it has not affected any indigenous people in the process of its implementation.



11. Gender Issue

18. This Project has been categorized as No Gender Elements (NGE), i.e. it does not include any gender design features.

12. Poverty and Social

19. It has been experienced that a reliable supply of electricity brings very significant benefits to people, especially the poorest ones. It is expected that this Project will enhance economic opportunities, better livelihoods, improved health and education, better security, and a generally higher standard of living. In Tajikistan, the winter months are particularly difficult for those who lack reliable electricity, and cannot afford adequate alternatives (or must spend much time seeking fuel). Women, in particular, will benefit from the Project because of their household and family responsibilities, including collecting fuel for cooking, heating, and processing water; and caring for children, the sick, and the elderly. Electricity also offers women many more opportunities for home-based enterprise and income generation, and has positive impacts on public facilities such as schools and health centers.

20. However, because this project will provide metering in existing substations (which will then supply electricity to the entire grid), as well as a new a transmission line, the benefits (although substantial) are generalized and indirect, and do not target particular communities.

13. Resettlement Monitoring

21. The Project implementation was monitored during the period to provide the PIU/PMU with an effective basis for assessing resettlement issues, if any. Monitoring involved i) administrative monitoring to ensure timely implementation and problem solving; ii) socioeconomic monitoring during and after any resettlement impact utilizing baseline information established through the socioeconomic survey of DPs undertaken during preparation; and (iii) overall monitoring to assess DPs' status. The EA was required to implement safeguard measures and relevant safeguard plans, as provided in the legal agreements, and to submit periodic monitoring reports on their implementation performance.

- Establish and maintain procedures to monitor the progress of implementation of safeguard plans



- Verify compliance with safeguard measures and their progress toward intended outcomes
- Document and disclose monitoring results and identify necessary corrective and preventive actions in the periodic monitoring reports
- Follow up on these actions to ensure progress toward the desired outcomes
- Retain qualified and experienced external expert to verify monitoring information for projects with significant impacts and risks
- Submit periodic monitoring reports on safeguard measures as agreed with ADB.

22. The PIU/PMU monitoring includes daily planning, implementation, feedback and troubleshooting, maintenance of individual file for each AP, community relationships, dates for consultations, number of appeals placed and progress reports. The PIU/PMU will provide monitoring report to ADB on a semi-annual basis. Additionally, ADB will monitor projects on an ongoing basis until a project completion report is issued.

14. Public Consultation and Disclosure

23. Public consultations have been important and continuous process. The team interacted with the project affected persons, and informed them about the project, the nature and magnitude of impact, the policy of Government, ADB in mitigating the impact, the entitlement for various types of impacts etc. and counselling them to cooperate for smooth implementation of LARP on outstanding APs. This was undertaken on a regular basis by PMU assisted by PIC.

24. To maintain transparency in planning and for further active involvement of all stakeholders and the general community in the implementation of LARP, the Project information was disseminated through disclosure of the resettlement planning documents. Each DP was given a pamphlet with information regarding the specific entitlements. The pamphlet specifically covers a brief description of the Project, compensation eligibility and entitlement including the entitlement matrix, schedule of LARP implementation and the compensation rates.



15. Compliance Monitoring

25. Grant agreement covenants, policy, legal, financial, economic, environmental, social safeguards and other, are being monitored through semi-annual project meetings and the midterm review.

26. ***Safeguards Monitoring*** will be performed by the consultants and PMU and the results will be included in the semi-annual progress reports and. Such monitoring should adhere to the requirements in IEE, EMP, and LARP. The compliance status is presented in the **Table 1** below:



Table 1: Compliance Status

SN	Agreement	Status of Compliance
1	It was ensured that all land and right of way required for Investment Program are made available in timely manner	Done
2	Adequate compensation was provided prior to the signing of relevant civil works contracts, and involuntary resettlement is carried out in accordance with the LA and resettlement framework (LARF) and LA and resettlement plan (LARP) agreed upon between the Government and ADB	Compensation was ascertained by the competent authority
3	Reassuring that the Projects will not negatively impact vulnerable groups, such as indigenous people, women, disabled and others, if any.	No IPs are impacted
4	If any issues related to indigenous people arise in course of project implementation, the borrower and the State shall ensure to address those issues in accordance with the applicable laws and policies. In case of any discrepancy between the borrower's legislation and ADB's policy, ADB's policy shall prevail	The grantee has ensured that no issues related to IP is there
5	Ensuring that all civil works contractors comply with all applicable labour laws, including those on occupational health and safety, and do not employ child labour as defined in national legislation for construction and maintenance activities. Work will be given to people from the area where the works are implemented and men and women will receive equal pay for work of equal value.	All legal issues were dealt in accordance with the country's applicable law.
6	The Project has established a grievance reporting and redressing mechanism	Established

16. Monitoring and Reporting

27. The Project implementation has been closely monitored during the period to provide the PIU/PMU with an effective basis for assessing resettlement issues, if any. The extent of monitoring activities, including their scope and periodicity, were commensurate with the risks and impacts of the subprojects. Monitoring involves: (i) administrative monitoring to ensure timely implementation and problems solving; (ii) socioeconomic monitoring during and after any resettlement impact utilizing baseline information established through the socioeconomic survey of DPs undertaken during subproject preparation; and (iii) overall monitoring to assess DPs' status. The EA was required to implement safeguard measures and relevant safeguard plans, as provided in the legal agreements, and to submit periodic monitoring reports on their implementation performance. ADB requires the EA to:

- establish and maintain procedures to monitor the progress of implementation of safeguard plans
- verify compliance with safeguard measures and their progress toward intended outcomes



- document and disclose monitoring results and identify necessary corrective and preventive actions in the periodic monitoring reports
- follow up on these actions to ensure progress toward the desired outcomes
- retain qualified and experienced external expert to verify monitoring information for projects with significant impacts and risks,
- Submit periodic monitoring reports on safeguard measures as agreed with ADB.

17. Observation

28. There was no social impact in the project over the period.

29. During this period the completions works have been made, Commissioning of Autotransformer 2, batteries and 220/110 kV AT2 bays and internal and external AT 2 protection relays, wrap up civil works in the yard internal roads in SS, fences, gates signposting, lighting and air-conditioning installation as well as overall cleaning of the SS. The project was inaugurated on 28th of March, an outstanding issues list was raised for the Substation, the Completion Certificate was issued but the Operational Acceptance Certificate wasn't issued, the Amendment 2's works were kicked off in April and went on over May and June.

30. The activities described in the paragraph 29 didn't have any negative impacts and consequences on public facilities (schools, hospitals cemeteries, mosques and other sites of religious, cultural and historical values). Community properties, trees, crops, and any other income generating activities wasn't affected by the project.

18. Public Consultations

31. No Public Consultation were implemented during the period.

i. Crops Affected by Construction of Towers

32. There weren't any crop affections during the period.

ii. Crops Affected by Temporary Land Acquisition

33. No crops were affected by temporary Land Acquisition over the reported period.



iii. Significant Impact on the Productive Assets

34. No assets were impacted during the reported period.

Resettlement and Relocation Options for DHs Losing Agricultural Lands

35. No Resettlement or Relocation during the period.

Community Responses to the Project

36. There weren't any Community Responses to the Project over this period.

Resettlement Database

37. No new data was recorded in Resettlement data over this period.