

# PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

## JAMUNA-MEGHNA RIVER EROSION MITIGATION PROJECT

### SUMMARY RESETTLEMENT FRAMEWORK AND RESETTLEMENT PLAN

#### A. Resettlement Framework for the Riverbank Protection Works

1. **Scope and Impact.** The resettlement framework includes the framework for the proposed 7.0 km and 4.4 km of protection work for the flood embankments along the Jamuna and Meghna rivers in Pabna Irrigation and Rural Development Project (PIRDP) and Meghna-Dhonagoda Irrigation Project (MDIP) respectively, to protect the project area from progressive river erosion. The revetment works will be implemented over 6 years. The total amount of land acquired for revetment is estimated at 35 hectares (ha) in PIRDP and 22 ha in MDIP, which will be eroded without project intervention. Their exact locations and impacts have to be reviewed and finalized during the final design stage, when the alignments for the protection works will be decided based on morphological development. Project implementation is expected to start in the first quarter of 2003.

2. **Resettlement Policy.** Resettlement will be implemented in accordance with the policy on involuntary resettlement of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and following the passage of the (i) Acquisition and Requisition of Immovable Property (ARIP) Ordinance 1982; and (ii) East Bengal State Acquisition and Tenancy Act (1951, revised 1994).

3. **Resettlement Principles, Entitlements, and Procedures.** The resettlement framework applies to all involuntary resettlement effects, including displacement of nontitled people, arising from land acquisition or conversion, or any other effects that result from project works on the floodplain, bank line, and any other land affected by the Project, including that required for embankment work and *char* lands lost due to the project works. Those affected will be helped to maintain at least their standard of living at preproject level. All losses, including of land, crops, trees, structures, business, employment, and workdays and wages, will be fully compensated, including those incurred by nontitled people. The owners of land acquired for protection work, including bank line and eroded land within the 50-meter right-of-way acquisition, will be fully compensated. Affected households will receive (i) an additional cash grant to match replacement value to supplement the grant provided by the deputy commissioner, and (ii) other resettlement assistance such as shifting allowances and compensation for loss of workdays and/or income due to dislocation. Female-headed and other vulnerable households will be eligible for further cash assistance for relocation and house reconstruction. People involuntarily displaced, including nontitled people, will receive priority assistance under the Project's social development subcomponent.

4. **Institutional Responsibilities and Procedures.** The project management office (PMO), under the responsibility of the chief resettlement and environmental management officer at the rank of executive engineer, has overall planning, financing, and supervisory responsibilities for resettlement plan preparation and implementation to be carried out by the subproject management offices (SMOs) with designated resettlement and social development officer. PMO will engage experienced NGO and consultants to assist the process. Each year, upon identification of the bank lines for

protection after the monsoon season, the following procedures are to be carried out: (i) PMO will undertake impact assessment surveys based on technical designs; and (ii) depending on the significance of the impacts, PMO will prepare full or short resettlement plans for the protected section, in compliance with ADB's policy on involuntary resettlement and other social safeguard guidelines. The full or short resettlement plans will be submitted to ADB for approval, and people affected should be fully compensated before award of the relevant civil works contracts. BWDB will ensure that resettlement budgets are delivered on time to the deputy commissioner's office and the implementing nongovernment organization (NGO) for timely resettlement plan implementation.

**5. Disclosure, Consultation and Grievances.** Each resettlement plan will be prepared and implemented in close consultation with the stakeholders and will involve focus group discussions and meetings, particularly with the project affected persons. Copies of draft resettlement plan will be distributed among NGOs and community groups prior to finalizing the engineering design. A grievances redress committee (GRC) will be established with representatives from PMO, affected persons, women and vulnerable groups, local government, and NGOs. The chief resettlement officer will chair the GRC. Other than disputes relating to ownership rights under the court of law, GRC will review grievances involving all resettlement benefits, relocation, and other assistance. Any grievances submitted to the GRC will be resolved within 2–3 weeks.

**6. Monitoring and Evaluation.** Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) will establish a monthly monitoring system involving PMO, SMOs and implementing NGO staff, and prepare progress reports on all aspects of land acquisition and resettlement, and social development efforts and outcomes. External monitoring will be assigned to an independent local expert and agency and report to BWDB and ADB quarterly. BWDB will also report to ADB on land acquisition and resettlement and social development in the quarterly progress report.

**7. Resettlement Cost.** The cost of land acquisition and resettlement is estimated at Tk109.7 million (\$1.91 million) excluding NGO services. The Government will provide the entire fund for land acquisition and resettlement, and will guarantee meeting unforeseen obligations in excess of the budget estimate to meet the resettlement objectives.

## **B. Short Resettlement Plan for the Secondary Embankments In PIRDP**

**8. Scope and Impacts.** The short resettlement plan is associated with the construction of a 1.2-kilometer secondary defense line of embankments to protect some critical sections of embankments in PIRDP. The plan will be implemented in 2003. The construction of the second defense line will require acquisition of an estimated 10 hectares. The proposed alignment largely consists of low-lying agricultural land. As a result, the project impact is limited to three households only (18 affected persons). An estimated 30 households will lose limited agricultural lands from strip acquisition.

**9. Resettlement Policy.** Resettlement will be in accordance with the ARIP Ordinance and in accordance with ADB's policy on involuntary resettlement.

**10. Stakeholder Consultation and Entitlements.** During the project preparatory stage, a consultation was held covering the secondary defense line area. The feedback and observations made at the stakeholders' meetings have been used in preparing the entitlement matrix and project benefits for affected people. No nontitled people were

affected. The entitlement matrix recognizes seven types of losses to cover all potential losses, including loss of access by tenants (Table A14).

**Table A14: Entitlement Matrix**

Type of Loss	Application	Definition of PAPs	Entitlements	Expected Results
1. Loss of agricultural or any other type of land such as fishponds	Land on the SDL right of way	Legal owners of land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓Cash compensation under law by DC</li> <li>✓ Additional cash grant to match market or replacement value, to be determined by BWDB through independent valuation committee</li> <li>✓Refund of registration cost incurred for replacement land purchase</li> </ul>	Replacement of agricultural land or the value to the PAPs
2. Loss of homestead land	Land on the SDL right of way	Legal owners of land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓Cash compensation under law by DC</li> <li>✓Replacement value of land</li> <li>✓Refund of registration cost incurred for replacement land</li> </ul>	Replacement of homestead and commercial land
3. Loss of residential structure by owners	Structure on the SDL right of way	Owner(s) of structures identified by DC and socioeconomic survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cash compensation under law by DC</li> <li>✓ Additional cash grant to match replacement costs</li> <li>✓Tk2,000 as transfer grant for relocation</li> <li>✓Tk7,500 for homestead and development and reconstruction cost</li> </ul>	Reconstruction of structure at a new site
4. Loss of trees, crops, perennials	Standing crops, trees on SDL right of way	Owners of land and nontitled people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓Compensation at the rate estimated by the Forest Department and the Agriculture Extension Department</li> </ul>	Compensation of standing crops and trees
5. Loss of access by tenants and sharecroppers	Agricultural plots on the SDL right of way	Tenants of the land as identified by the socioeconomic survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓Tk200 per decimal of agricultural land under tenant/sharecropping contract farming</li> </ul>	Compensation for loss of access to farmland
6. Loss of income and work days due to displacement	Households affected by SDL right of way	Head of households identified by the socioeconomic survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓Tk2,000 per household</li> <li>✓Tk3,000 for households headed by women</li> <li>✓Employment in the project construction work</li> </ul>	Subsistence and income after displacement
7. Additional assistance to the poor and vulnerable	Vulnerable households on the SDL right of way	Households relocated to new site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓Lump-sum poverty reduction assistance of Tk5,000 per household under the poverty line</li> </ul>	Poverty reduction measures and development

DC = deputy commissioner, PAP = project affected persons, SDL = secondary defense line.

**11. Implementation Responsibilities and Cost Estimates.** The same arrangement as described in the resettlement framework is followed. The estimated land acquisition and resettlement cost for SDL is Tk15 million (\$260,000). The Government will provide the entire fund for land acquisition and resettlement. The affected people, including those affected by land acquisition, will receive compensation prior to award of civil works contracts.