

Initial Poverty and Social Analysis

Country:	India	Project Title:	Assam Power Sector Investment Program
Lending/Financing Modality:	Multitranchise Financing Facility	Department/Division:	South Asia/Energy

I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

India's 11th Five Year Plan (2007-2012) views GDP growth not as an end in itself but as a means to reducing poverty, and emphasizes infrastructure development as one of the keys to promoting broad-based economic growth. ADB's strategy is closely aligned with India's strategy, in that both have a strong focus on infrastructure development, including energy and power sector development and reforms. Adequate electric power supply is essential for achieving sustainable economic growth. Furthermore, regular and efficient power supplies are conducive to a reduction in poverty levels as observed in States like Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat. The benefits of improving the power sector are manifold. Technical improvements and reforms that lead to sector sustainability can free up resources for other pro-poor initiatives. Improved power supply and reliability contributes to improved social services, as hospitals, schools and other social utilities are often hardest hit by inadequate power supply, load shedding, and poor power quality. Socially, regular and efficient power supply increases access to electronic media such as TV and radio, enabling more informed, meaningful choices and an enhanced understanding of civic affairs and duties. For the economy of India, power sector development could support greater farm mechanization leading to greater agricultural yields, and could benefit the commercial and industrial sectors by promoting access to markets, skills training, entrepreneurship, and an increase in employment opportunities. With regular electrification, there would also be an increase and improvement in household and cottage industries. All these factors have a positive impact on alleviating and reducing poverty. The Program is consistent with government policies as outlined above and ADB's Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) which supports expanded and optimized transmission systems and strong public sector institutions. The Program's rationale is to improve the quality of supply within the state and to energy deficit states, thus encouraging industry which contributes to economic growth.

B. Targeting Classification

General Intervention Individual or Household (TI-H) Geographic (TI-G) Non-Income MDGs (TI-M1, M2, etc.)

The project aims to increase and improve electricity access and supply in India, thereby creating economic opportunity that will lead to an increase in peoples incomes and quality of life.

C. Poverty and Social Analysis

1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries.

Project beneficiaries are those that will directly benefit from an increased supply and access to electricity. Targeted beneficiaries will primarily be of low economic status, living in remote and rural villages of India. Their exact level of vulnerability is being assessed during PPTA. Poverty reduction interventions and strategies will be prepared accordingly.

2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.

The project has the capacity to improve the quality of life and well being of beneficiaries in the project area by providing these with opportunities to increase their incomes through employment and alternative livelihoods.

3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the PPTA or due diligence.

PPTA consultants will include qualified social specialists. These will prepare frameworks on involuntary resettlement (IR) and Indigenous Peoples (IP) policy issues and will be tasked with carrying out poverty, social and gender analysis on a tranche by tranche basis. Social assessments will result in mitigation and management plans for each tranche and a Gender Action Plan where relevant and feasible.

4. Specific analysis for policy-based lending. N/A

II. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

1. What are the key gender issues in the sector/subsector that are likely to be relevant to this project or program. Gender issues include limited opportunity to be involved in the economic sector due to daily drudgery and household responsibilities such as fetching and collecting water and fuel sources. Lack of access to energy contributes to the drudgery and that improved power supply capacity will result in time savings of women's drudgery of fetching water and collecting firewood.

2. Does the proposed project or program have the potential to make a contribution to the promotion of gender equity and/or empowerment of women by providing women's access to and use of opportunities, services, resources, assets, and participation in decision making?

Yes No A gender assessment will be carried out during the PPTA or due diligence to assess specific project impacts on gender and to determine the potential to promote opportunities for women as a result of the project such as livelihood opportunities and increased vigilance against social risks such as HIV/AIDS. A Gender Action Plan will be prepared during the PPTA or due diligence, if needed.

3. Could the proposed project have an adverse impact on women and/or girls or widen gender inequality? Yes

No The project is not expected to adversely impact women or girls.
4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category: <input type="checkbox"/> GEN (gender equity theme) <input type="checkbox"/> EGM (effective gender mainstreaming) <input type="checkbox"/> SGE (some gender elements) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGE (no gender elements)
III. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT
1. Who are the main stakeholders of the project, including beneficiaries and negatively affected people? Identify how they will participate in the project design. Stakeholders will include peoples living in the direct and indirect area of the project(s),
2. How can the project contribute (in a systemic way) to engaging and empowering stakeholders and beneficiaries, particularly, the poor, vulnerable and excluded groups? What issues in the project design require participation of the poor and excluded? By promoting continuous, open and transparent dialogue with project stakeholders.
3. What are the key, active, and relevant civil society organizations in the project area? What is the level of civil society organization participation in the project design? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information generation and sharing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership Where there is opportunity to work with stakeholders, the projects will aim to work in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including building partnerships for joint cooperation. Opportunities will be assessed and explored with the EA during PPTA.
4. Are there issues during project design for which participation of the poor and excluded is important? What are they and how shall they be addressed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Not known at this time.
IV. SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS
A. Involuntary Resettlement Category <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI
1. Does the project have the potential to involve involuntary land acquisition resulting in physical and economic displacement? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Project components will involve infrastructure works with their share of standard construction related impacts and risks. The adequate mitigation and management of those risks and impacts will be assessed during PPTA.
2. What action plan is required to address involuntary resettlement as part of the PPTA or due diligence process? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resettlement plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resettlement framework <input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input type="checkbox"/> None
B. Indigenous Peoples Category <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI
1. Does the proposed project have the potential to directly or indirectly affect the dignity, human rights, livelihood systems, or culture of indigenous peoples? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Does it affect the territories or natural and cultural resources indigenous peoples own, use, occupy, or claim, as their ancestral domain? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No This is not known at this stage and will be further assessed during PPTA.
3. Will the project require broad community support of affected indigenous communities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
4. What action plan is required to address risks to indigenous peoples as part of the PPTA or due diligence process? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples planning framework <input type="checkbox"/> Social Impact matrix <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input type="checkbox"/> None
V. OTHER SOCIAL ISSUES AND RISKS
1. What other social issues and risks should be considered in the project design? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creating decent jobs and employment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adhering to core labor standards <input type="checkbox"/> Labor retrenchment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spread of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in human trafficking <input type="checkbox"/> Affordability <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in unplanned migration <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in vulnerability to natural disasters <input type="checkbox"/> Creating political instability <input type="checkbox"/> Creating internal social conflicts <input type="checkbox"/> Others, please specify _____
<input type="checkbox"/> How are these additional social issues and risks going to be addressed in the project design? These will be addressed by incorporating relevant ADB guidelines, specific covenants in the loan agreement and FFA (as needed).
VI. PPTA OR DUE DILIGENCE RESOURCE REQUIREMENT
1. Do the terms of reference for the PPTA (or other due diligence) contain key information needed to be gathered during PPTA or due diligence process to better analyze (i) poverty and social impact; (ii) gender impact, (iii) participation dimensions; (iv) social safeguards; and (vi) other social risks. Are the relevant specialists identified? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. What resources (e.g., consultants, survey budget, and workshop) are allocated for conducting poverty, social and/or gender analysis, and participation plan during the PPTA or due diligence? Qualified social development consultant to undertake both social and gender analysis during the PPTA/appraisal stage of project preparation.

