

Uzbekistan: Railway Efficiency Improvement Project

Project Name	Railway Efficiency Improvement Project
Project Number	51052-001
Country	Uzbekistan
Project Status	Approved
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount	TA: Railway Efficiency Improvement Project
	Technical Assistance Special Fund US\$ 1.00 million
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions
Sector / Subsector	Transport - Rail transport (non-urban)
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements
Description	The project aims to improve the efficiency of Uzbekistan's railway operations, combining investments where it faces operational bottlenecks (e.g. electric locomotives), and strategic support to improve business practices.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Surrounded by Afghanistan to the south, Kazakhstan to the north and northwest, the Kyrgyz Republic to the northeast, Turkmenistan to the southwest, and Tajikistan to the southeast, Uzbekistan serves three of six Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) corridors. With 31 million people, Uzbekistan is the most populous country in Central Asia. Being a double landlocked country requiring crossing at least two countries to reach seaports, transport plays an important role in sustaining its socioeconomic development. Rail transport has a unique competitive advantage over road transport for moving commodities and goods in bulk over long distances. The 4,669 km Uzbekistan rail network carries about 60 million tons of freight and 15 million passengers annually. Since 2004, Uzbekistan's gross domestic product has grown by more than 7% per year. This has contributed to strong demand for rail transport. Improvements in relationships between Uzbekistan and its immediate neighbors will further add to such demand. Uzbekistan has continued to modernize its railway infrastructure. Since its founding in 1994, O'zbekiston Temir Yo'llari (UTY), the vertically integrated public railway company, has gradually implemented a holistic railway modernization program, including the completion of a unified rail network, electrification and modernization of existing lines, and improvement of rolling stock. The government accorded particular importance to electrification, with 2,446 km or 52% of the network now electrified. Despite these efforts, the railways still face long transport times, inadequate service quality, and high operating costs, because of aged or inadequate infrastructure, operational inefficiencies, competition from road transport, and an insufficient number of locomotives. This results in lost economic opportunities, suboptimal regional trade, and negative environmental impacts.

Impact

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome

Progress Toward Outcome

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design

During Project Implementation

Responsible ADB Officer	Sakamoto, Ko
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Transport and Communications Division, CWRD
Executing Agencies	O'zbekiston Temir Yo'llari 7 Taras Shevochenko St. Tashkent 70060 Uzbekistan

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	07 Aug 2017
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	23 Mar 2017

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/51052-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=51052-001
Date Generated	16 August 2017

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