



# Initial Poverty and Social Analysis

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## Proposed Technical Assistance Loan Bangladesh: Urban Infrastructure Improvement Preparatory Facility

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Asian Development Bank

## ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
CSO	–	civil society organization
DPHE	–	Department of Public Health Engineering
LGD	–	Local Government Division
PMU	–	project management unit
TOR	–	terms of reference
ULB	–	urban local body

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### INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	Bangladesh	Project Title:	Urban Infrastructure Improvement Preparatory Facility
Lending/Financing Modality:	TA Loan	Department/ Division:	South Asia Department/ Urban Development and Water Division

#### I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

The technical assistance (TA) loan intends to strengthen the readiness and implementation performance of the ensuing urban investment projects from 2020 onwards and build capacities of the implementing agencies with emphasis on ensuring that ensuing projects are climate resilient and promote effective gender mainstreaming. The TA loan is consistent with the vision in Bangladesh's Seventh Five-Year Plan FY2016–FY2020 of pursuing a compact, networked, resilient, competitive, inclusive and smart urban development.<sup>a</sup> The TA loan is thus aligned with five of the nine strategic objectives and priority areas of ADB's country partnership strategy for Bangladesh (2016-2020): (i) easing infrastructure constraints in the key sector of urban development, (ii) improving human capital, (iii) providing climate and disaster resilient infrastructure and services, (iv) addressing institutional capacity constraints and improving governance, and (v) gender analysis.<sup>b</sup>

##### B. Poverty Targeting

General intervention  Individual or household (TI-H)  Geographic (TI-G)  Non-income MDGs (TI-M1, M2, etc.)

The project will provide support for development of detailed project designs that incorporate gender responsive and socially inclusive features to address the needs of the poor, women, and vulnerable disadvantaged groups related to access to services.

##### C. Poverty and Social Analysis

###### 1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries.

Almost 25.0% of the population in Bangladesh lives in poverty with 12.9% of the population suffering from extreme poverty (footnote a). Moreover, provision of basic urban services such as piped water, piped sewer network, sanitation, fecal sludge management, and solid waste management is limited. Based on the Health and Morbidity Status Survey 2012, dysentery and diarrhea ranked 5th and 7th out of top 20 diseases (for all ages) with proportional morbidity of 4.5% (M-5.2%, F-3.8%) and 3.5% (M-3.7%, F-3.4%), respectively.<sup>c</sup> The survey also showed that among children aged 0 to 14, the highest prevalence of diarrhea and dysentery occurred in the age group 5-9 years who use non-water sealed toilet and drink river/ditch/canal water (1,000 per 1,000 population). Highest prevalence was at 329 per 1,000 population for age group 0-4 who use non-water sealed toilet and drinking pond water and 146 per 1,000 for age group 10-14 who had no toilet facility and drink tube well water (footnote c). Unfortunately, *pourashavas*/urban local bodies (ULB) have weak technical capacity in preparing, designing and implementing urban infrastructure projects needed to tackle these problems. The TA loan will therefore directly benefit *pourashava*/ULB personnel whose capacities for project preparation and implementation will be strengthened. Ultimately, greater benefits will redound to all citizens, particularly the poor, women and other vulnerable groups, as better prepared and designed ensuing projects will more effectively address issues on urban basic services.

###### 2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.

Projects to be prepared under the TA loan will cover two cities and nine candidate towns and emphasize climate resilience, gender-responsiveness and social inclusion.<sup>d</sup> Feasibility studies and detailed engineering design will ascertain social and poverty issues. Through the conduct of feasibility studies, the project will identify measures to ensure increased access of women and disadvantaged groups to basic urban services.

3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the transaction TA or due diligence.  
The TA loan will center squarely on the low provision and quality of urban infrastructure that has caused acute shortages of basic public services, especially in poor communities. Particular attention will be drawn to gender and social inclusion issues and climate resilience. Consultancy and staff resources will be allocated to conduct engineering study, economic and financial analysis, and social and environmental assessment with required documentation.
4. Specific analysis for policy-based lending. Not applicable.

## II. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

1. What are the key gender issues in the sector and/or subsector that are likely to be relevant to this project or program?

While Bangladesh has made significant progress in critical areas to gender equality, key gender issues remain, including lower rates of labor force participation (2013; Female-33.5%, Male-81.6%): and higher unemployment rates (2013; Female-7.2%, Male-3%), and underemployment rates for women than for men (2013; Female-4.4%, Male-3.8%) (footnotes b and d). In addition, women have less access to technical and vocational training. Female adult literacy at 61.6% is also lower than male adult literacy at 67.6% (based on 2015 data).<sup>e</sup>

2. Does the proposed project or program have the potential to contribute to the promotion of gender equity and/or empowerment of women by providing women access to and use of opportunities, services, resources, assets, and participation in decision making?  Yes  No

The TA loan will promote projects that have gender friendly features and prepare guidelines for mainstreaming gender equity in the design of urban projects. Gender issues will be assessed, and gender perspectives will be integrated in project planning to achieve positive outcomes for women particularly in achieving gender equality. The TA loan will also ensure that at least 20% of female project management unit (PMU) staff will have increased capacity in the areas of procurement, contract management, safeguards and gender equality. As feasible, the implementing agencies will consider conducting, under the ensuing loans, baseline / end line surveys on socioeconomic indicators (e.g., health impacts, inter-household decision-making and responsibilities for water collection and other WASH issues; time poverty and physical safety issues for women with poor urban infrastructure).

3. Could the proposed project have an adverse impact on women and/or girls or widen gender inequality?  Yes  No

4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category:

- GEN (gender equity)  EGM (effective gender mainstreaming)  
 SGE (some gender elements)  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.

Main stakeholders of the TA loan are Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Narayanganj City Corporation, Local Government Division, and other relevant ULBs as well as greater municipal population, including the poor, women and other vulnerable groups. They will be actively consulted regarding project design.

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?

Feasibility studies and detailed engineering design to be prepared under the TA loan will identify the needs and challenges faced particularly by the poor, vulnerable, and excluded groups. Regular consultations will be conducted with them to confirm that ensuing projects are designed in such a manner that will directly address their necessities and concerns. Ensuing projects will also support the empowerment of women and their employment in skilled positions (i.e.technical and management) in project agencies and ULBs.

3. What are the key, active, and relevant civil society organizations (CSOs) in the project area? What is the level of civil society organization participation in the project design?

(H) Information generation and sharing (M) Consultation (M) Collaboration (N) Partnership

4. Are there issues during project design for which participation of the poor and excluded is important? What are they and how should they be addressed?  Yes  No  
 Issues related to access to urban services and implications to health and productivity of the poor, women, and other vulnerable groups will be determined and/or validated through consultations. The information gathered will be analyzed and will inform feasibility studies, as well as in designs of ensuing projects.

#### IV. SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

##### A. Involuntary Resettlement Category A B C FI

1. Does the project have the potential to involve involuntary land acquisition resulting in physical and economic displacement?  Yes  No

The TA loan aims to strengthen the capacity of relevant government agencies to efficiently design and implement urban infrastructure projects. No resettlement will happen under the TA loan itself. Potential involuntary resettlement impacts of ensuing projects will be assessed and addressed following ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement, 2009 and pertinent government laws and policies.

2. What action plan is required to address involuntary resettlement as part of the transaction TA or due diligence process?

Resettlement plan  Resettlement framework  Social impact matrix  
 Environmental and social management system arrangement  None

##### B. Indigenous Peoples Category A B C 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?  Yes  No

2. Does it affect the territories or natural and cultural resources indigenous peoples own, use, occupy, or claim, as their ancestral domain?  Yes  No

Impacts on indigenous peoples are unlikely as the TA loan will focus only on project readiness and capacity building. Furthermore, indigenous peoples are also unlikely to be present at the selected municipal areas for ensuing projects.

3. Will the project require broad community support of affected indigenous communities?

Yes  No

4. What action plan is required to address risks to indigenous peoples as part of the transaction TA or due diligence process?

Indigenous peoples plan  Indigenous peoples planning framework  Social impact matrix  
 Environmental and social management system arrangement  None

#### V. OTHER SOCIAL ISSUES AND RISKS

1. What other social issues and risks should be considered in the project design?

(H) Creating decent jobs and employment (H) Adhering to core labor standards  
 Labor retrenchment (L) Spread of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS  
 Increase in human trafficking (H) Affordability (L) Increase in unplanned migration  
 (H) Increase in vulnerability to natural disasters  Creating political instability  
 Creating internal social conflicts  Others, please specify (L) Child labor

2. How are these additional social issues and risks going to be addressed in the project design?

The TA loan will ensure that contracts prepared will comply with national labor laws and regulations and adhere to core labor standards. Feasibility studies will assess the affordability of the proposed urban services as well as other socio-economic risks. Climate resilience will also be emphasized in project preparation.

#### VI. TRANSACTION TA OR DUE DILIGENCE RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

1. Do the terms of reference for the transaction TA (or other due diligence) contain key information needed to be gathered during transaction TA or due diligence process to better analyze (i) poverty and social impact, (ii) gender impact, (iii) participation dimensions, (iv) social safeguards, and (v) other social risks. Are the relevant specialists identified?  Yes  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 transaction TA or due diligence?

Consultants (social safeguards, social development and gender specialists) will be mobilized to conduct social impact assessment and poverty, social and gender analyses.

<sup>a</sup> Government of Bangladesh, Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning. 2015. *Seventh Five-Year Plan FY2016-FY2020: Accelerating Growth, Empowering Citizens*. Dhaka.

<sup>b</sup> ADB. 2016. *Country Partnership Strategy: Bangladesh 2016-2020*. Manila.

<sup>c</sup> Government of Bangladesh, Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Informatics Division, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. 2013. *Health and Morbidity Status Survey- 2012*. Dhaka.

<sup>d</sup> The two towns are Comilla and Narayanganj; the nine candidate towns Bandarban, Chandpur, Daudkandi, Hajganj, Lalpur, Lama, Natore, Pabna and Rangamati.

<sup>e</sup> ADB. 2017. *Development Effectiveness Brief: Bangladesh*. Manila.