



Initial Poverty and Social Analysis

Project Number: 53055-001
June 2021

People's Republic of China: Guangxi Wuzhou Healthy and Age-Friendly City Development Program

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CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 9 June 2021)

Currency unit	–	yuan (CNY)
CNY1.00	=	\$0.1563
\$1.00	=	CNY6.3974

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
ECS	–	elderly care services
EMDP	–	ethnic minority development plan
GZAR	–	Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region
GZARG	–	Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Government
PPP	–	public-private partnership
PRC	–	People's Republic of China
TA	–	technical assistance

NOTE

In this report, "\$" refers to United States dollars.

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INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	People's Republic of China	Program Title:	Guangxi Wuzhou Healthy and Age-Friendly City Development Program
Lending/Financing Modality:	Results-based lending	Department/Division:	East Asia Department/Urban and Social Sectors Division

I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

The proposed RBL program will support Wuzhou Municipality in GZAR, PRC to demonstrate the development of a healthy and age-friendly city through establishing healthy and safe urban environments, improving access to integrated age-friendly services and facilities, demonstrating smart city digital platforms, and strengthening institutions and building capacity. By improving urban infrastructure and services for better health and living conditions, the program will be aligned with several ADB Strategy 2030 operational priorities: (i) addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities (operational priority 1), (ii) accelerating progress in gender equality (operational priority 2), (iii) making cities more livable (operational priority 4), and (iv) strengthening governance and institutional capacity (operational priority 6). The proposed program is anchored in the (i) Healthy China 2030 Plan; (ii) Healthy Guangxi 2030; (iii) Healthy Wuzhou 2030 issued in 2019; and (iv) Wuzhou Healthy and Age-Friendly City Development Program, 2022–2026, to be issued in 2021. The program is also well-aligned with the new ADB country partnership strategy for the PRC, 2021–2025 which includes a focus on health security and responding to an aging society, as one of its three pillars.^a

B. Poverty Targeting

General Intervention Individual or Household (TI-H) Geographic (TI-G) Non-Income SDGs

C. Poverty and Social Analysis

1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries.

Key issues. Wuzhou is the oldest city in the GZAR, with a history of over 2,200 years. Wuzhou comprises three urban districts (Changzhou, Longxu, and Wanxiu) that together comprise the urban core; three counties (Cangwu, Mengshan, and Teng); and one county-level city (Cengxi). The total population has grown by nearly 23% in 10 years, from 2.88 million in 2010 to 3.53 million in 2020. Of the total population, 46.7% are women and girls, 2.8% are ethnic minorities, and 5.6% are vulnerable and receive social assistance under the government's minimum living standard guarantee (*dibao*) system. Several key constraints in Wuzhou hamper urban health, well-being, and livability for all ages. These include poor traffic safety resulting from poor road and parking conditions, non-barrier-free movement for people with mobility challenges, old infrastructure especially poor drainage systems which often cause flooding and waterlogging, inadequate public facilities for fitness and recreation, poor sanitation, and a shortage of both the quantity and quality of integrated elderly care services and qualified care staff. Wuzhou's older population (over the age of 60) has been steadily increasing, from 10.4% of the total population in 2010 to 14.3% in 2020. The share of older persons in the urban core at 17.9% is much higher than the average for Wuzhou municipality. It is highest in Wanxiu District, the location of the historic old town, at 24.7%.

Beneficiaries. The program is geographically focused on the urban core, so the primary beneficiaries will be the 0.81 million residents of Changzhou, Longxu, and Wanxiu districts (48.2% women and girls, 17.8% over the age of 60, 2.5% ethnic minorities, and 3.0% vulnerable people and receiving social assistance) but all residents of Wuzhou will ultimately benefit from the impact of improved growth and competitiveness. Women in particular will benefit from both new jobs created in the elderly care sector, and from a reduced care burden as a result of improved access to home-, community-, and institution-based elderly care services.

2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes. The program is expected to improve beneficiaries' well-being and living conditions through access to improved municipal facilities and services including barrier-free design features; improved road and parking system to reduce traffic accidents and casualties; upgraded drainage systems; more pedestrian-friendly green spaces and facilities for public fitness, sports, and recreation to promote public health, including mental health; more accessible elderly care services with integrated models of home-based, community-based, and institutional care; and capacity development for care staff. The project will also reduce barriers to access the improved social services through smart city digital platform development.

3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the transaction technical assistance (TRTA) or due diligence. A PSGA will be carried out early in the project preparation phase to analyze the impact of the program on the poor and vulnerable and on women and girls and identify pro-poor and gender design features. The social development and gender consultants will (i) review issues with access, affordability, and quality of facilities and public service for traffic safety, environment and sanitation improvement, public health promotion, and childcare and elderly care services, with special attention to women, the poor, and ethnic minority groups; (ii) assess benefits and any potential

negative impacts on stakeholders; (iii) identify measures to enhance benefits and mitigate any potential negative impacts; and (iv) recommend specific actions to be included in the PAP.

II. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Women will benefit from the program through improved urban services and increased safety, community health and hygiene improvements, and better access to childcare and elderly care services. Gender issues in aging include disparities in lifespans between men and women, and women's role in unpaid care work, looking after multiple generations. Women take the main responsibility for family care, so better access to home-, community-, and institution-based elderly care services will release women from the care burden and allow them to find employment and earn an income. Capacity development and employment for elderly care services can also bring direct benefits for women as they are majority of the care workforce. Moreover, women will also be beneficiaries of the newly constructed or upgraded public fitness and sports and recreation spaces and facilities. This increases the importance of women's participation in public consultations to reflect women's needs and concerns in the program design.

2. Does the proposed 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 Please explain.

Women will be direct beneficiaries of program interventions. Gender analysis will be conducted as part of the PSGA, and gender concerns and needs will be incorporated in the design and implementation of the program and the PAP. Opportunities will be explored to collaborate with the All China Women's Federation and/or the human resource and social security bureaus on women's employment, training, public consultation, and awareness raising.

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

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 program, including beneficiaries and negatively affected people? Identify how they will participate in the program design.

The main stakeholders include the municipal government and its agencies including the development and reform commission; municipal health committee; and bureaus of disease control and prevention, civil affairs, ecology and environment, education, health, human resources and social security, market supervision and administration, medical security, poverty reduction, public security, and others. "Social forces" include the women's federation, among others. The beneficiaries include all residents of Wuzhou who will enjoy an improved urban environment, public service delivery, and social inclusion.

2. How can the program contribute (in a systemic way) to engaging and empowering stakeholders and beneficiaries, particularly, the poor, vulnerable and excluded groups? What issues in the program design require participation of the poor and excluded? The PSGA consultation meetings to be conducted during program preparation will identify beneficiary concerns, especially those of vulnerable groups, to inform program design and develop measures for effective program implementation. Accessibility and affordability of elderly care services will be assessed, as will access to digital platforms for older persons.

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

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

Civil society organizations (social forces) are active in elderly care service provision (home- and community-based) and will be consulted through the PSGA consultation meetings.

4. Are there issues during program design for which participation of the poor and excluded is important? What are they and how will they be addressed? Yes No

Older persons will be consulted during the project design and TRTA on issues such as their needs and affordability; and views on type, quality, availability, and monitoring mechanisms of care services and design of facilities.

IV. SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

A. Involuntary Resettlement Category A B C

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

The program includes civil works to upgrade urban spaces and facilities. Upgrading existing facilities is not expected to result in significant land acquisition or house demolition impacts. The footprints of new facilities, including solid waste transfer stations and community-based elderly care centers will not be large (ranging from 3 *mu* to 30 *mu*), and site selection can be achieved to minimize resettlement impacts. The program will exclude activities that would trigger Category A.

2. What actions are required to address involuntary resettlement as part of the TRTA or assessment process?

Program safeguard system assessment and actions None

B. Indigenous Peoples Category A B C

1. Does the proposed program have the potential to directly or indirectly affect the dignity, human rights, livelihood systems, or culture of indigenous peoples? Yes No

In total there were 20,118 members of ethnic minority groups living in the program area in 2019, accounting for 2.47% of the total population. Of these, more than two-thirds (67%) are Zhuang, 23% are Yao, 2% are Miao minorities, and 8% belong to other ethnic groups. The Zhuang ethnic group is the largest of the PRC's 55 official minorities. All ethnic minorities in the Wuzhou program area live in a scattered and mixed form with the Han majority. During the TRTA due diligence, field investigation will identify any specific ethnic minority issues.

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

The program will focus on the city and equally benefit all urban residents in Wuzhou through the improved and inclusive public services, facilities, and environments such as green spaces, public toilets, barrier-free and pedestrian-friendly streets, public fitness facilities, elderly care services, etc. The program will not affect ethnic minorities' traditional ways of life, or their territories or natural and cultural resources, such as their ancestral domain.

3. Will the program require broad community support of affected indigenous communities? Yes No

4. What actions are required to address risks to indigenous peoples as part of the TRTA or the program assessment process?

Program safeguard system assessment and actions None

V. OTHER SOCIAL ISSUES AND RISKS

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

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

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

The cost of elderly care services in various modes for poor and vulnerable people will be assessed during program preparation, including the availability of social assistance, subsidies, or fee exemptions. The program will create employment opportunities during construction and operation of new childcare and elderly care facilities. The use of core labor standards will be included in the loan assurances.

VI. TRTA OR ASSESSMENT RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

1. Do the terms of reference for the TRTA (or program assessments) contain key information needed to be gathered during TRTA or the program assessment 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 budget for workshops) are allocated for conducting poverty, social and/or gender analyses, and participation plan during the TRTA or the program assessments?

The TRTA includes a national gender and social development expert to conduct the PSGA and related consultations. This will include in-person key informant interviews and focus group discussions or workshops where possible, but also online social research and survey methods in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

ADB = Asian Development Bank; COVID-19 = coronavirus disease; CSO = civil society organization; GZAR = Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region; H = high; M = medium; PAP = program action plan; PRC = People's Republic of China; PSGA = poverty, social, and gender assessment; RBL = results-based lending; TRTA = transaction technical assistance.

^a ADB. 2021. [Country Partnership Strategy: People's Republic of China, 2021–2025—Toward High-Quality, Green Development](#). Manila.

Source: ADB.