



# Initial Poverty and Social Analysis

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Project Number: 55201-001  
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## Bangladesh: Second Coastal Towns Environmental Infrastructure Improvement Sector Project

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## **CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS**

(as of 02 August 2021)

Currency unit	–	taka (Tk)
Tk 1.00	=	\$0.01
\$1.00	=	Tk84.82

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

COVID-19	–	Coronavirus disease
CSO	–	civil society organizations

## **NOTE{S}**

- (i) The fiscal year (FY) of the Government of Bangladesh and its agencies ends on 30 June. "FY" before a calendar year denotes the year in which the fiscal year ends, e.g., FY2021 ends on 30 June 2021.
- (ii) In this report, "\$" refers to United States dollars.

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## INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	Bangladesh	Project Title:	Second Coastal Towns Environmental Infrastructure Improvement Project
Lending/Financing Modality:	Sector Loan	Department/ Division:	South Asia Department/ Urban Development and Water Division

<b>I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS</b>
<p><b>A. Links to the National Poverty Reduction Strategy and Country Partnership Strategy</b></p> <p>The Second Coastal Towns Environmental Infrastructure Improvement Project (the Project) will support to address the challenges of climate change by taking actions to protect the economy and quality of life of the residents. The project output includes improvement of climate-resilient municipal infrastructure primarily cyclone shelters, emergency access roads and bridges, water supply, drainage, solid waste management and other municipal infrastructure. It will also strengthen urban planning and disaster preparedness, institutional capacity, governance and outreach activities and public awareness, behavior change in the light of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The project has in-built components to ensure that ensuing infrastructure are climate-resilient and promote gender responsive and socially inclusive development. The project is consistent with the vision in Bangladesh's Eighth Five-Year plan fiscal year (FY) 2021–FY2025, of pursuing flood free cities with proper drainage, modern sewerage, proper waste management and clean air.<sup>a</sup> The proposed project will enhance resilience of climate vulnerable 22 coastal towns and is listed in the country operations business plan for Bangladesh, 2021–2023.<sup>b</sup></p>
<p><b>B. Poverty Targeting</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> General intervention <input type="checkbox"/> Individual or household (TI-H) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geographic (TI-G) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-income MDGs (TI-M1, M2, etc)</p> <p>Coastal areas are characterized by high poverty incidence and vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and variability. The project will address multiple dimensions of poverty including low levels of access to basic services such as water supply, sanitation, drainage, and help communities develop resilience to the impacts of climate change through adaptations in infrastructure, capacity building, governance, and urban planning. The project will make broader improvements to local governance to improve citizen participation and ensure services are more responsive to poor communities. The project will identify interventions required for skilling of low-income communities for sustainable livelihoods in fragile ecosystems. Together with proposed slum improvement and water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions, the livelihood interventions using a holistic Graduation Approach are expected to build resilience of poor and vulnerable communities.</p>
<p><b>C. Poverty and Social Analysis</b></p> <p><b>1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries.</b> Although poverty in Bangladesh has reduced substantially between 2010 and 2019, almost 20.0% of the population continues to be poor, with 10.5% population suffering from extreme poverty.<sup>c</sup> Provision of basic urban services such as piped water, piped sewer network, sanitation, fecal sludge management, and solid waste management is limited. Coastal towns suffer from large infrastructure deficits and natural resource constraints that exacerbate sensitivity to climate change. A shortage of drains and severe siltation and solid waste build up result in severe flooding and extended water logging. Water supply systems are characterized by: (i) low access to piped water, (ii) salinity contamination of shallow and middle aquifers, and (iii) unsustainable groundwater extraction. Poor septage management or treatment systems result in polluted waterways and a high incidence of waterborne diseases, with large outbreaks occurring after disasters. The Health and Morbidity Status Survey 2014 revealed that diarrhea and dysentery ranked seventh and eighth out of top 20 diseases (for all ages) with proportional morbidity of 4.02% (Male-4.33%, Female-3.71%), and 3.86% (Male-4.28%, Female-3.44%), respectively.<sup>d</sup> The 2014 survey also showed that prevalence of diarrhea and dysentery was 63.36 per 1,000 in urban areas, versus 75.25 per 1,000 at national level (Endnote d). Emergency access roads are in poor condition, and most cyclone shelters are structurally unsafe due to extensive exposure to cyclones and poor maintenance. There is an acute need for higher-capacity, multi-use and climate-resilient cyclone shelters located in areas accessible to poor populations. It is critical that new investments are designed that consider climate change to manage the long-term costs of disasters triggered by natural hazards and ensure investments deliver intended benefits. Poor communities including women in coastal towns are also vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, as increased incidence of cyclones and sea level rise destroys their assets and livelihoods. The project aims to support the vulnerable coastal populations with improvements in climate-resilient urban infrastructure. The project's livelihood focus will help strengthen the climate resilience quotient by placing emphasis on the needs and agency of the poor and vulnerable and supporting well-diversified and adaptive livelihood systems.</p> <p><b>2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.</b> Citizens in coastal towns including the poor and vulnerable will be the beneficiaries of climate-resilient urban infrastructure and livelihood programs aimed at resilience and diversification of livelihoods, coupled with social protection, social empowerment and financial inclusion under the graduation program. The project will incorporate pro-poor designs into the physical investments, as well as in the capacity building, awareness, livelihood resilience and governance programs. Specific measures to be further explored during project preparation include formation of town level and ward-level coordination committees in project</p>

towns with adequate representation of women, poor and vulnerable, poverty reduction action plans using the Graduation Approach prepared and implemented, slum improvement committees established, output-based aid and targeting of poor and women-headed households for livelihood resilience, awareness raising and behavior change programs.
<b>3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the transaction TA or due diligence.</b> Focus will be on poverty, gender, livelihood resilience and social inclusion issues. Resources will be allocated to conduct social and environmental assessment, socioeconomic surveys and consultations, while ensuring adherence to COVID-19 protocols. Consultations will be undertaken with women, low-income, elderly, disabled, and youth to understand their specific experiences and ideas for better management, and identify barriers, if any, for access to project benefits for all.
<b>4. Specific analysis for policy-based lending.</b> Not Applicable
<b>II. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT</b>
<p><b>1. What are the key gender issues in the sector and/or subsector that are likely to be relevant to this project or program?</b> Women and the poor suffer more from limited access to water supply and basic sanitation resulting in limited employment opportunities and increasing health risks. They are also most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change as their asset bases and livelihood options are severely affected during cyclones. Women currently have limited participation in local decision-making on urban governance and services. They can also serve as agents of change for community behavior change programs, particularly hygiene, sanitation, water conservation, community resilience and disaster preparedness. As women are key players at the household level, increased access to basic public services will improve the lives of women. Asian Development Bank Country Partnership Strategy for Bangladesh, 2016-2020 recognizes that gender equality and social inclusion must be emphasized in the context of urban governance in Bangladesh. Considering this, the project shall define appropriate avenues for meaningful consultations with the poor, women, other vulnerable groups and civil society organizations (CSOs) during project preparation and implementation.</p> <p><b>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's access to and use of opportunities, services, resources, assets, and participation in decision-making?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  Gender issues and perspectives will be assessed and integrated in project planning to achieve positive outcomes for women particularly in achieving gender equality. The consultation and participation component will ensure that women's voices (including poor women and those belonging to disadvantaged groups) are heard, including their needs, priorities, and constraints. Actions that would support women's empowerment and employment in skilled positions include training on technical, financial and customer management skills, that will be proposed to skill local women and men and help them obtain employment. These actions will be reflected in the project's gender action plan. The project will also ensure that woman officers (technical staff) are trained on system operation and maintenance. Multisector Urban Action Plans will be prepared, as part of which urban design guidelines for gender responsive and socially inclusive open spaces will be prepared and implemented in two of the project towns.</p> <p><b>3. Could the proposed project have an adverse impact on women and/or girls or widen gender inequality?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> GEN (gender equity) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EGM (effective gender mainstreaming)  <input type="checkbox"/> SGE (some gender elements) <input type="checkbox"/> NGE (no gender elements)</p>
<b>III. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT</b>
<p><b>1. Who are the main stakeholders of the project, including beneficiaries and negatively affected people? Identify how they will participate in the project design.</b> Stakeholders include citizens, poor and vulnerable communities, businesses, Government, CSOs, and other development partner stakeholders, who will be fully consulted under the consultation and participation plan. The local community's attitude toward the project and potential impacts will be taken into account in the assessment of alternatives and design considerations.</p> <p><b>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?</b> The stakeholder participation and communication strategy will target participation of the poor and women to ensure inclusion and enhance sustainability. More detailed stakeholder analysis will be undertaken during project preparation to identify roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders and to understand issues facing poor and vulnerable groups that may require special measures. Opportunities for engagement with CSOs for awareness campaigns will be explored to enhance inclusion of poor and vulnerable.</p> <p><b>3. What are the key, active, and relevant CSOs in the project area? What is the level of CSO participation in the project design?</b> Some of the active CSOs in the project area include SNV Bangladesh, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee, Water Aid, working on disaster management, water and sanitation.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information generation and sharing (M) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation (M) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration (L) <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership (NA)</p> <p><b>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?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Participation of CSOs, poor and vulnerable throughout the project cycle will be essential for effective design, implementation, and sustainability, and</p>

will be ensured through continuous consultations. Adequate funds will be allocated, and project performance monitoring system will develop specific indicators to strengthen and ensure inclusion of poor and vulnerable.

#### 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 Government owned lands free of encumbrances will be identified for project facilities. Limited resettlement impacts are envisaged during construction. Any adverse temporary impacts on roadside businesses during pipelaying will be mitigated or compensated. Due diligence consultants will work with the implementing agency to determine involuntary resettlement impacts. A resettlement framework will be prepared to guide planning and implementation of subprojects not appraised during project preparation. Involuntary resettlement impacts will be further assessed and reconfirmed during project processing.

**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 Impacts on small ethnic communities and forest communities are not anticipated, as investments will be in urban areas, where presence of indigenous peoples is unlikely. Subprojects are not anticipated to impact indigenous peoples as a group.

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

**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?**

- Creating decent jobs and employment (M)  Adhering to core labor standards (H)  Labor retrenchment  
 Spread of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS (L)  Increase in human trafficking  Affordability (L)  
 Increase in unplanned migration  Increase in vulnerability to disasters triggered by natural hazards   
 Creating political instability  Creating internal social conflicts  Others, please specify \_COVID-19 (L)

**2. How are these additional social issues and risks going to be addressed in the project design?** Safeguards and contract documents will stipulate the requirement to adhere to core labor standards, including COVID-19 health and safety plans, which will be prepared in line with international best practices and government policy for COVID-19. Contractors and construction workers will be made aware of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS and COVID-19, through the dissemination of information for labor and communities around the construction sites.

#### 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?** A social inclusion expert is mobilized to undertake the poverty, social and gender analysis which will be the basis for the gender equality and social inclusion action plan and the participation plan. A Graduation Specialist will be engaged to design the livelihood resilience and graduation components. Training programs for all project staff and stakeholders are proposed on project management, safeguards, and gender. Community consultations and awareness campaign on water, sanitation, hygiene; and behavior change will be conducted. Adequate budgetary provision will be made for these activities and for engagement of inclusion and graduation experts.

<sup>a</sup> Government of Bangladesh, Planning Commission. 2016. [Development Planning in Bangladesh: Eighth Five-year plan and SDG Implementation](#). Dhaka.

<sup>b</sup> ADB. 2020. [Country Operations Business Plan Bangladesh, 2021–2023](#). Manila.

<sup>c</sup> Government of Bangladesh, Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Informatics Division. 2017. [Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2016](#). Dhaka.

<sup>d</sup> Government of Bangladesh, Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Informatics Division. 2015. [Health and Morbidity Status Survey 2014](#). Dhaka.