



Philippines: Tiger Digital Infrastructure for Rural Connectivity Project

Project Name	Tiger Digital Infrastructure for Rural Connectivity Project				
Project Number	56189-001				
Borrower / Company	Tiger Infrastructure Philippines Inc.				
Country / Economy	Philippines				
Location	Mindanao, Visayas				
Type or Modality of Assistance	4257	Loan	Ordinary capital resources	USD 20.00 million	Approved
	4258	Loan	Ordinary capital resources	USD 5.00 million	Approved
	8430	Loan	Leading Asia's Private Infrastructure Fund (LEAP)	USD 15.00 million	Approved
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth				
Drivers of Change	Partnerships Private sector development				
Sector / Subsector	Information and communication technology / ICT infrastructure				
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements				
Responsible ADB Department	Private Sector Operations Department				
Responsible ADB Division	Infrastructure Finance Division 2				
Responsible ADB Officer	Bhattacharya, Aditi				
Project Sponsor(s)					
Description	The loan will support the development, construction, and operations of up to 380 telecommunications towers focused on the Mindanao and Visayas islands in the Philippines. ADB will provide long-term fixed rate project financing on a portfolio-based approach.				
Objectives and Scope	The project involves the development, construction, operations, and maintenance of up to 380 ground mounted towers that are essential in enabling mobile network operators to provide a full range of mobile and data services in the Philippines. Majority of the towers will be in the Mindanao and Visayas regions, helping expand affordable telecommunication services in underserved areas of the Philippines and accelerate economic recovery from the coronavirus disease pandemic.				
Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	The project is consistent with ADBs Strategy 2030, (i) promoting quality infrastructure investments and enhancing connectivity in the region; and (ii) expanding private sector operations to reach one-third of ADB operations in number by 2024. Further, the project supports 3 operational priorities: (i) addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities; (ii) accelerating progress in gender equality; and (iii) promoting rural development. . The Project addresses a critical connectivity gap in infrastructure development in the Philippines. Access to the digital economy is one of driving forces for inclusive growth in remote underserved regions as it promotes the mobility of the population from less productive sectors to better economic opportunities and improves the productivity of many sectors.				
Safeguard Categories					
Environment					B
Involuntary Resettlement					C
Indigenous Peoples					B
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects					
Environmental Aspects	ADB has undertaken due diligence and reviewed the potential environmental and social impacts of the project and the measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and compensate for the adverse impacts in the safeguard reports and plans. Tiger Infrastructure is committed to developing and maintaining the necessary environmental and social management system (ESMS) and institutional capacity to manage the projects social and environmental impacts. The borrowers environmental and social consultant conducted a corporate ESMS audit and project-level social compliance audit. At the time of due diligence, Tiger Infrastructure had completed the acquisitions of the 14 sites, but the site clearing and construction works have not yet started. The borrower is yet to determine the location of the rest of the towers. The anticipated environmental impacts associated with the project mainly concern occupational and community health and safety, noise and reduced air quality, transportation and traffic, waste generation, biodiversity, electric and magnetic fields, and visual amenity. National legislation does not require the project to secure an environmental compliance certificate; however, this does not exempt the project from compliance with applicable environmental laws, rules and regulations including permitting requirements of other government agencies.				
Involuntary Resettlement	No involuntary resettlement impacts are envisaged. Sites are leased from private landowners through a willing lessor-willing lessee arrangement. Sites that may cause displacement to third-parties or informal users will not be considered.				
Indigenous Peoples	As towers will be established in Visayas and Mindanao, there may be sites within indigenous peoples domains. While the project is not expected to displace indigenous peoples, Tiger Infrastructure shall foster full respect for indigenous peoples identity, dignity and cultural uniqueness; ensure indigenous peoples in the area do not suffer any adverse impacts from the project; allow them to participate actively in case they are affected; and comply with all requirements under the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997.				
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation					

Timetable for assistance design, processing and implementation	
Concept Clearance	28 Oct 2022
Credit Committee Meeting	28 Oct 2022
Approval	24 Nov 2022
Last PDS Update	25 Nov 2022

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/56189-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=56189-001
Date Generated	28 November 2022

ADB provides the information contained in this project data sheet (PDS) solely as a resource for its users without any form of assurance. Whilst ADB tries to provide high quality content, the information are provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including without limitation warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, and non-infringement. ADB specifically does not make any warranties or representations as to the accuracy or completeness of any such information.