

## INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:  Project Title:

Lending/Financing Modality:  Department/ Division:

### I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

The Government gives high priority to improving the railway sector and proposes to finance priority investments to overcome capacity bottlenecks and implement organizational and policy reforms to improve the railway's operational and financial performance. This is to increase the sector's contribution to the national economic growth. The absence of adequate railway infrastructure exacerbated by severe shortage of capacity on some critical sections, which include the major economic and population corridors, has been considered as an impediment to development, particularly for the transport of goods, freight and passenger traffic between the regions. Infrastructure development encourages other development initiatives, which together considerably stimulate economic growth.

The inadequacy of Bangladesh's transport infrastructure is constraining the country's growth. Transport infrastructure development program is high priority with the Government, making ADB's strategy of poverty reduction through infrastructure led growth especially relevant. The ADB approved the Country Operations Business Plan ( 2013-2015), which is part of the larger Bangladesh country partnership strategy ( 2011-2015). Under the strategy, ADB's assistance will continue to be centered on support for infrastructure development and rail is significant component of Bangladesh' s transport sector.

#### B. Targeting Classification

General Intervention  Individual or Household (TI-H)  Geographic (TI-G)  Non-Income MDGs (TI-M1, M2, etc)

The ensuing projects will accelerate economic growth in Bangladesh. The projects will help bring about increased employment opportunities, particularly for the vulnerable families; improved means of transport for better access, amenities and goods reaching the project area, all of which will help reduce poverty in the area.

#### C. Poverty and Social Analysis

1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries. The potential primary beneficiaries of the project are the commuters, traders, business community and communities in the vicinity of the project influence area. The poor and the excluded also get an easy access as railways is still a cheaper and reliable means of transport. This provides better access to markets and other services.

2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.

The project will help improve people's access to and use of opportunities, services, resources and assets.

3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the PPTA or due diligence.

TA consultants will be engaged to carry out the poverty and social assessment.

4. Specific analysis for policy-based lending. Not applicable.

### II. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

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

The project design will include measures so that women's groups can be actively engaged in developing the project to ensure that their needs are met. At the project preparatory stage sex-disaggregated data on the range of socioeconomic indicators relevant to the Project will be collected with the focus on the needs, demands, and constraints faced by the poor, women, and vulnerable groups in the project area, in terms of their equitable access to the benefits and opportunities associated with the project. Gender analysis will be carried out to inform the design of the project. The poverty and social assessment will assess the health and social risks associated with the infrastructure project (like HIV/AIDS, human trafficking).

2. Does the proposed project or 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.

The Project will help improve women's access to and use of opportunities, services, resources and assets. The TA will explore opportunities to incorporate certain gender considerations in the proposed project.

<p>3. Could the proposed project have an adverse impact on women and/or girls or widen gender inequality?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Please explain</p> <p>4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category: <input type="checkbox"/> GEN (gender equity theme) <input type="checkbox"/> EGM (effective gender mainstreaming)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SGE (some gender elements) <input type="checkbox"/> NGE (no gender elements)</p>
<b>III. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT</b>
<p>1. Who are the main stakeholders of the project, including beneficiaries and negatively affected people? Identify how they will participate in the project design.</p> <p>Bangladesh Railway, various line departments, project beneficiaries, local communities in the project influence area, among others. The Projects will benefit the poor and the vulnerable by providing increased employment and market opportunities, improved means of transport and better access to social service facilities. In case any involuntary resettlement impacts are identified during the planning stage, these will also be mitigated through provisions in the Safeguard Policy Statement, national laws and policies. Most of the beneficiaries, especially the vulnerable and the women headed households, will be consulted during the resettlement planning stage and while conducting the poverty and social assessment.</p> <p>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?</p> <p>The project will help improve people's access to and use of opportunities, services, resources and assets which will further empower them. Throughout the project cycle meaningful consultations will be held with the project beneficiaries providing them information regarding the project design and implementation. This will further empower the communities. The project will benefit all socio economic categories as they can easily commute from one place to another.</p> <p>3. What are the key, active, and relevant civil society organizations in the project area? What is the level of civil society organization participation in the project design?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H Information generation and sharing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H Consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership</p> <p>There are civil society organizations working in the area of health, microfinance, social welfare in the project influence area. The civil society organizations will be consulted while preparing the resettlement planning documents and poverty and social assessment.</p> <p>4. Are there issues during project design for which participation of the poor and excluded is important? What are they and how shall they be addressed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>People from all the socio economic strata are meaningfully consulted during the preparatory phase. Community meetings and focus group discussions will be organized as part of the poverty and social analysis. The local consultative meetings will involve all relevant stakeholders including representatives of the poor and other socially excluded groups ( e.g., women, indigenous people, etc) to disseminate the information as well as to get the feedback about the project design and its potential impacts. Other key stakeholders such as the relevant line departments, local Government representatives and NGOs will also be consulted. Consultations will also be undertaken with the affected households and communities during the course of the census survey and socioeconomic survey for the preparation of the safeguards planning documents.</p>
<b>IV. SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS</b>
<p><b>A. Involuntary Resettlement Category</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI</p>
<p>1. Does the project have the potential to involve involuntary land acquisition resulting in physical and economic displacement? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>The TA will prepare resettlement planning documents to address the potential impacts if identified.</p> <p>Since the levels of significance of impacts are not known at this stage, the TA will ascertain the project impacts.</p> <p>2. What action plan is required to address involuntary resettlement as part of the PPTA or due diligence process?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resettlement plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resettlement framework <input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix  <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input type="checkbox"/> None</p>

**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

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 PPTA 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  Adhering to core labor standards  Labor retrenchment

Spread of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS  Increase in human trafficking  Affordability

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 project design?

The project construction is expected to generate employment opportunities for the local communities during the construction phase thereby offering opportunities for employment. Men and women will be paid equally for equal work. The EA will ensure that all civil works will comply with all the labor laws; will not employ child labor for construction and maintenance works. The project will help improve the capacity of the existing rail network.

**VI. PPTA OR DUE DILIGENCE RESOURCE REQUIREMENT**

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

Yes  No

3. What resources (e.g., consultants, survey budget, and workshop) are allocated for conducting poverty, social and/or gender analysis, and participation plan during the PPTA or due diligence?

Sufficient time and resources have been allocated under the TA for carrying out poverty, social and gender analysis.