

INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:

China, People's Republic of

Project Title:

Henan Hebi Qihe River Environmental Improvement and Ecological Conservation Project

Lending/Financing Modality:

Project loan

Department/ Division:

East Asia Department/Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division

I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

The People's Republic of China (PRC) manages poverty reduction through cross-cutting five-year plans. The proposed project is consistent with PRC's Twelfth Five-Year Plan (2011–2015) that supports the government's long-term goal of building a harmonious and moderately prosperous (xiaokang) society through livelihood improvement and regionally balanced and environmentally sustainable growth, and also ADB's Country Partnership Strategy for the PRC for 2011–2015 that supports the government's over-arching strategic goal of building a xiaokang society by focusing on three strategic pillars: inclusive and environmentally sustainable growth. The project is also consistent with a decision of the Third Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China which supports construction of eco-civilization and establishment of a system to protect ecological environment.

The project will improve management of surface water resources in Hebi City, through flood management and environmental improvement. The project will improve the overall well-being of the population in the project area, and therefore improve and stabilize livelihood of poor households and reduce their vulnerability to flooding and unsanitary conditions.

B. Targeting Classification

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

As the project will increase urban population with access to improved sanitation, the project is classified to non-income MDG-7.

C. Poverty and Social Analysis

1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries.

Hebi City has a total population of 1.6 million, of which 0.6 million are expected to benefit from the project. The general population in the project area will be the main beneficiary, through improved management of surface water resources, particularly flood management and environmental improvement. Since lack of proper flood and wastewater management impacts poor households, they are expected to benefit from the project over-proportionally.

2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.

The project preparatory technical assistance (PPTA) will assess particular needs of poor and vulnerable people, such as subsidies for wastewater tariffs and nonstructural measures for managing the environment and floods. The PPTA will quantify impacts and benefits of the project. Land loss or change in land use will impact particularly farmers whose farmlands will be restored to wetlands or acquired for construction. The project will create limited numbers of jobs in construction that will be mostly available for local people, like poorer people with fewer income sources. The project will aim to improve management of surface water resources in Hebi City to benefit all people, but poorer people with fewer coping strategies for floods and deteriorating environment should benefit over-proportionally.

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

The PPTA consultant team will include an international social development and resettlement specialist, a national social development specialist, and a national resettlement specialist. Budget will be included for these specialists to conduct field surveys. In order to identify project impacts on poor and vulnerable people, assess benefits, and ensure benefits are accrued by those people, the specialists will (i) conduct social analysis with particular attention on gender, poverty, and labor issues; (ii) conduct social safeguards due diligence for the project sites; and (iii) prepare a resettlement plan(s), a social action plan, a gender action plan, and consultation participation plan. In addition, during the PPTA, nonstructural measures which will benefit poor and vulnerable people will be identified. These would include activities to manage environment and floods, such as community-based flood and environmental management.

4. Specific analysis for policy-based lending.

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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?

It is assumed that the lack of environmental management, such as lack of wastewater collection, and impacts of flood events damage vulnerable people, in particular women, since deteriorating environment and floods are a burden on women who have more responsibility than men in caring for sick or weak family members and in protecting children and elderly people during floods. Also, as a rural area, Hebi City lacks employment and capacity building opportunities for women, as they come under increased stress due to rapid change from a rural to an urbanized environment.

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

The PPTA will develop design elements which will ensure vulnerable and women in the project area benefit equally. A gender action plan will be prepared during the PPTA, which will focus on employment generation and capacity building for women under the project, and empowering women through improved participation in management and nonstructural measures.

3. Could the proposed project have an adverse impact on women and/or girls or widen gender inequality?

Yes No

Potential adverse impacts of the project will affect all genders and not particularly women. Adverse impacts will be mitigated through project design measures, an environmental management plan, and a resettlement plan(s).

4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category:

GEN (gender equity theme) 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 are the Hebi City Government and the governments of Qibin District and Qi and Xun Counties, which will be the executing and implementing agencies, as well as project neighborhoods and villages. Beneficiaries are represented through their village committees. The stakeholders will be consulted during project design to ensure the project design corresponds to their needs. Particularly, negatively-affected people (such as farmers) will be consulted through participatory meetings, to ensure their voices are heard.

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?

During the PPTA, nonstructural measures which will benefit poor and vulnerable people will be identified. These would include activities to manage environment and floods, such as community-based flood and environmental management. The project will have economic and physical displacement impacts that have to be mitigated, and people to be displaced will be consulted. Poor and vulnerable displaced people should be better off after displacement, through livelihood restoration measures that are integrated with project activities.

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?

H Information generation and sharing H Consultation Collaboration Partnership

Village and neighborhood representation, women's federation, and community-based groups will participate in the project design.

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? Yes No

The design of livelihood restoration measures for people to be economically displaced and the design of nonstructural measures will need the participation of poor and vulnerable beneficiaries.

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

Total permanent land acquisition of 230 hectares (ha) is currently anticipated as well as 160 ha temporarily occupied. The number of affected people is currently unknown, but at least several hundred persons are expected to lose at least 10% of their income-generating assets in form of agricultural land.

2. What action plan is required to address involuntary resettlement as part of the PPTA 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

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

No indigenous communities are identified in the project area.

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(M) Adhering to core labor standards(L) 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 project design?

During the PPTA, a social action plan will be prepared to highlight issues related to employment and affordability and prepare mitigation activities to ensure those issues are addressed properly during implementation.

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

The terms of reference includes poverty, social, and gender analysis, and preparation of relevant planning documents, including resettlement, a social action, gender action, and consultation and participation plans. An international resettlement and social development specialist, a national resettlement specialist, and a national social development specialist will be members of the PPTA consultant team.

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 PPTA or due diligence?

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