



Afghanistan: Arghandab Integrated Water Resources Development Project

Project Name	Arghandab Integrated Water Resources Development Project
Project Number	48096-002
Country	Afghanistan
Project Status	Proposed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Grant
Source of Funding / Amount	Grant: AFG: Arghandab Water Resources Development Project (Formerly: Preparing the Helmand Basin Project) concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund US\$ 231.09 million
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Partnerships
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development - Irrigation - Water-based natural resources management Energy - Conventional energy generation Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban water supply
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements
Description	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	- Address key development constraint (water and power shortage) - Economic growth, poverty alleviation, improved quality of life - Complements the Government's peace building efforts
Impact	
Outcome	
Outputs	
Geographical Location	
Safeguard Categories	
Environment	A
Involuntary Resettlement	A
Indigenous Peoples	C
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	The project is Category A for Environment and will require preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study to assess the impacts and provide adequate mitigation measures as well as monitoring plans. Component 1 involves raising of Dahla Dam by 13.6 meters. Works related with saddle dam 1 to 6 and saddle dam 1 extension, intake tower, tunnel lining and trash rack will also be carried out. Execution of the works under this component will result in significant environmental impacts, including change in land use and ecology due to inundation at the upstream end, soil erosion and dust generation during earthworks, as well as social issues related mainly with water rights, land tenure as well as occupational and community health and safety. Moreover, aquatic environment/habitats may also be affected in case the environmental flow conditions are not accounted for at the downstream end.
Involuntary Resettlement	The project is Category A for Involuntary Resettlement. As of 18 March 2019, for the dam raise output, it is estimated that: (i) 22 villages will be inundated; (ii) 596 out of a total of 778 houses in these villages will be impacted; (iii) 14 mosques and schools, 3 shrines and 3 graveyards will be affected; (iv) 84% of agricultural land in these villages will be inundated; (v) 643 orchards, and 92,241 fruit trees will be inundated; (vi) a 600m long strip of the proposed road realignment will pass through agricultural lands of one village. For the irrigation and agriculture output, it is estimated that: (i) 151 shops along the canal will be affected and will be removed; (ii) surveys are currently being carried out to determine the trees, residential structure, cultural sites, etc in the road beside the canal.
Indigenous Peoples	The project is Category C for Indigenous Peoples Impact. In Afghanistan, there are no groups regarded as Indigenous People's, as per the SPS (2009) definition. All groups are integrated into society and represented at the various political groups.
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	
Responsible ADB Officer	Woldring, Hans Siewert
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division, CWRD

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	08 Dec 2016
Fact Finding	10 Apr 2019 to 20 Apr 2019
MRM	03 Jun 2019
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	12 Apr 2019

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/48096-002/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=48096-002
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