

SUMMARY POVERTY REDUCTION AND SOCIAL STRATEGY

Country:	People's Republic of China	Project Title:	Chongqing Longxi River Basin Integrated Flood and Environmental Risk Management Project
Lending/Financing Modality:	Project	Department/Division:	East Asia Department Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division

I. POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY
Poverty targeting: General intervention
A. Links to the National Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth Strategy and Country Partnership Strategy
<p>The project will strengthen the flood management and promote comprehensive environment improvement and ecological protection in the Longxi River watershed, an important tributary of the Yangtze River, in Chongqing Municipality of the People's Republic of China (PRC). The Yangtze River Economic Belt has been earmarked as one of the three key growth engines to ensure the PRC's future economic development. The project is consistent with the PRC's Thirteenth Five-Year Plan, 2016–2020, which emphasizes flood and environment risk management, as well as poverty reduction.^a The project is aligned with the country partnership strategy of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the PRC, 2016–2020, which prioritizes (i) managing climate change and environment, (ii) supporting inclusive economic growth, and (iii) fostering knowledge cooperation.^b The project is also consistent with (i) ADB's Water Operational Plan, 2011–2020;^c and (ii) Sustainable Development Goals 6, 11, and 13.^d</p>
B. Results from the Poverty and Social Analysis during PPTA or Due Diligence
<p>1. Key poverty and social issues. The project will be implemented in 19 towns in Changshou District, Dianjiang County, and Liangping District of Chongqing Municipality. The total population of this county and districts was 2.804 million in 2016, of which 0.895 million residents will benefit directly from the project. The population under the minimum living guarantee line is estimated at 1.34% in the project's urban areas and 2.67% in the rural areas.^e The rural poverty incidence in the project county and districts, according to the national poverty line, is 0.3%.^f The PRC's goal is to eliminate poverty by 2020. For the project's contribution to poverty reduction, the population below the minimum living guarantee line and the national poverty line is considered poor.</p> <p>2. Beneficiaries. Direct beneficiaries of the project are 0.895 million residents in 19 project towns, including 4,450 urban poor and 16,268 rural poor people. Women comprise 48.7% of the beneficiary population. These residents will benefit directly from the strengthened flood control, reduced water pollution, improved environment and living conditions, and increased employment opportunities. Another 1.909 million population in the project county and districts will benefit indirectly from the improved flood and environment management and promotion of social and economic development in the Longxi River Basin.</p> <p>3. Impact channels. The project will contribute to poverty reduction and provide socioeconomic benefits to the poor and other residents in the project area by (i) providing direct employment opportunities during the project construction and operation; (ii) reducing flood-related agricultural and property losses through river flood control measures; (iii) reducing pollution of the river basin by improving solid waste and wastewater collection; (iv) providing recreation places by constructing wetlands and landscaping along the rivers; and (v) promoting socioeconomic development.</p> <p>4. Design features. The project design directly responds to local needs identified during the poverty and social assessment. The project will demonstrate the following good practices in the PRC: (i) integrated flood risk management with a comprehensive monitoring and early warning system in the entire watershed, (ii) environmental protection linked with livelihood improvement, and (iii) ecological improvement with living conditions improved. Key social design features include (i) reducing adverse social impacts, including land acquisition and resettlement; (ii) targeting employment for women and the poor; and (iii) strengthening public participation and consultation during preparation and implementation of the project activities, including flood and environment risk management and community-level solid waste management. The resettlement plans, social development action plan (SDAP), and gender action plan (GAP) include detailed actions to mitigate adverse social impacts and maximize positive impacts of the project.</p>
II. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERING THE POOR
<p>1. Participatory approaches and project activities. The executing agency, implementing agencies, and transaction technical assistance consultants carried out consultations with local stakeholders during the feasibility study regarding subproject components and design standards. More than 700 participants were consulted, of which 33% are women. A total of 12 consultation meetings of government agencies, 15 community-focused group discussions, and 20 key informant interviews were carried out. Opinions and suggestions of participants were incorporated in the feasibility study reports, the poverty and social assessment report, SDAP, GAP, and other relevant project documents.</p>

During the resettlement plan preparation, 43 consultation meetings were organized, 860 affected households were interviewed, and women comprised 26.4% of the interviewees during the household socioeconomic survey. During the environmental impact assessment, 619 participants were surveyed in two rounds of public consultations. Relevant project information was posted on the websites of the three project counties.

2. Civil society organizations. The All-China Women's Federation participated in consultation meetings regarding women's employment, women's rights and interests, and awareness raising during the project preparation. The All-China Women's Federation will support the project in promoting women's employment by providing women with relevant information, and public awareness and training activities.

3. The following forms of civil society organization participation are envisaged during project implementation, rated as high (H), medium (M), low (L), or not applicable (NA):

Information gathering and sharing (H) Consultation (H) Collaboration (L) Partnership (NA)

4. Participation plan.

Yes. Measures for participation are included in the social and safeguard plans. No.

III. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

Gender mainstreaming category: Effective gender mainstreaming

A. Key issues. Consultations with benefiting or affected women and social and gender analysis were undertaken during the project preparation. These revealed that women are unsatisfied with or suffering from the current weak river flood control management, poor sanitary environment along the rivers, agricultural and property loss caused by periodic floods, and poor recreation facilities. Women are hardest hit during floods because of their low response capacity, limited livelihood options, lack of access to physically secured places, and weak networks. Women also have significant family and household responsibilities and are employed in low-paying jobs. While women generally have good social status in families, they engage in agricultural production and take care of the family. Focus group discussions with women revealed that they support the project and expect better employment opportunities and a better living environment. Women are expected to benefit from the project through priority employment during construction and operation, as well as improved flood and environment management. Women's participation in public consultation meetings, training programs, and public awareness raising activities is expected to improve project implementation and results as well.

B. Key actions. A GAP has been developed to ensure gender mainstreaming under the project. The key measures include (i) fair and equitable participation of women in decision making during project design and implementation, with at least 40% women participants; (ii) training and capacity building of staff of the executing and implementing agencies to implement the GAP and related measures; (iii) priority employment opportunities for women, with at least 30% during construction and 40% during operation; (iv) participation of women in awareness raising in flood and environment management and public hearing on tariffs with 50% women participants; (v) participation of women in decision making for the pilot community-based solid waste management program, with at least 40% women members in community groups; and (vi) ensuring women employees' rights and equitable access to sanitation facilities (toilet, shower, washroom) and health education (e.g., HIV/AIDS awareness) during construction. The GAP includes detailed measures.

Gender action plan Other actions or measures No action or measure

IV. ADDRESSING SOCIAL SAFEGUARD ISSUES

A. Involuntary Resettlement

Safeguard Category: A B C FI

1. Key impacts. Of an estimated total 4,193 *mu* of land area used under the project, 1,773 *mu* is existing state-owned land, 1,585 *mu* of collective land will be obtained by land acquisition and converted into state-owned land, 310 *mu* of land will be arranged through rural infrastructure land use, and 525 *mu* will be used through land use right transfer.⁹ In addition, 527 *mu* of land will be used temporarily. Houses with a total area of 8,707 square meters will be demolished and 32 households with 123 persons will be physically relocated. Altogether, the project will affect a total of 5,412 households with 18,000 persons will be affected by the project's land use, mostly infrastructure along the riverbanks.

2. Strategy to address the impacts. The resettlement plans have been prepared in accordance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and relevant laws and regulations of the PRC and local governments. The information from the resettlement plans has been disclosed to affected people in Chinese. Compensation and relocation assistance will be provided to affected people before commencing relevant civil works. Implementation of the resettlement plans will be monitored by the executing and/or implementing agency, as well as the external monitoring agency.

3. Plan or other Actions.

Resettlement plan Combined resettlement and indigenous peoples plan
 Resettlement framework Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples
 Environmental and social management system arrangement planning framework
 Social impact matrix
 No action

<p>B. Indigenous Peoples Safeguard Category: <input type="checkbox"/>A <input type="checkbox"/>B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>C <input type="checkbox"/>FI</p> <p>1. Key impacts. The project does not involve impacts to ethnic minority villages or communities that would trigger ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) requirements on indigenous peoples. The scattered population of ethnic minority individuals identified in the project area is not expected to have adverse impacts from the project.</p> <p>Is broad community support triggered? <input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>No</p> <p>2. Strategy to address the impacts. Not applicable.</p> <p>3. Plan or other actions.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement plan and indigenous peoples plan</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples planning framework</td> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement</td> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan elements integrated in project with a summary</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No action</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement plan and indigenous peoples plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples planning framework	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan elements integrated in project with a summary	<input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No action	
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V. ADDRESSING OTHER SOCIAL RISKS										
<p>A. Risks in the Labor Market</p> <p>1. Relevance of the project for the country's or region's or sector's labor market, indicated as high (H), medium (M), and low or not significant (L).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unemployment (M) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> underemployment (M) <input type="checkbox"/> retrenchment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> core labor standards (M)</p> <p>2. Labor market impact. The project will create 2,337 jobs during project implementation and 99 jobs during the operation phase. Contractors will be required to comply with core labor standards and national labor regulations.</p>										
<p>B. Affordability. A tariff for wastewater collection services may be introduced during project implementation. If any new tariff is introduced, increased household expenditures on wastewater are expected to be less than 1% of total annual household income. A public hearing, including the participation of the poor and women, will be conducted in setting any new tariff for wastewater services, including a necessary subsidy or support measures for the poor.</p>										
<p>C. Communicable Diseases and Other Social Risks</p> <p>1. Indicate the respective risks, if any, and rate the impact as high (H), medium (M), low (L), or not applicable (NA):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communicable diseases (L) <input type="checkbox"/> Human trafficking</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify) _____</p> <p>2. Risks to people in project area.</p> <p>A low risk of communicable disease transmission exists from construction workers, since most of the workers are expected to be employed locally. HIV/AIDS prevention clauses will be included in contractors' bidding documents. HIV/AIDS and sexually-transmitted infection prevention training and awareness raising support will be provided by the contractors to construction workers during project implementation.</p>										
VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION										
<p>1. Targets and indicators. The design and monitoring framework, SDAP, and GAP include targets and indicators for the project's social measures.</p> <p>2. Required human resources. The executing and implementing agencies will appoint at least one social focal person for implementation and monitoring of the project's social measures. Inputs of social and gender specialists are included in the project management support consultancy service. An independent agency will be recruited for external resettlement and social monitoring.</p> <p>3. Information in the project administration manual. Requirements for the implementation and monitoring of social measures (resettlement plans, SDAP, and GAP) are included in the project administration manual.</p> <p>4. Monitoring tools. Internal monitoring results on the resettlement plans, SDAP, and GAP will be included in the periodic project progress reports and project performance management system. External resettlement and social monitoring reports will be submitted to ADB semiannually.</p>										

Note: A *mu* is a Chinese unit of measurement (1 *mu* = 666.67 m²).

^a Government of the PRC. 2015. *Outline of the Thirteenth Five-Year Plan of National Economic and Social Development, 2016–2020*. Beijing.

^b ADB. 2016. *Country Partnership Strategy: Transforming Partnership: People's Republic of China and Asian Development Bank, 2016–2020*. Manila.

^c ADB. 2011. *Water Operational Plan, 2011–2020*. Manila.

^d United Nations. 2016. [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

^e The urban minimum living guarantee line is CNY500 per month and the rural minimum living guarantee line is CNY300–CNY350 per month.

^f The national poverty line is CNY2,300 per capita annual income in 2010 prices (i.e., CNY3,026 in 2016).

^g The land used will remain collectively owned and the rural infrastructures will be owned and used by local villagers.

Source: Asian Development Bank.