

## INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	Bangladesh	Project Title:	Railway Rolling Stock Operations Improvement Project
Lending/Financing Modality:	Project Loan	Department/Division:	South Asia Department/Transport and Communications Division

### I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

The majority of Bangladesh Railway's rolling stock is aged over 30 years, often unreliable and malfunctioning and requiring frequent repair as well as various spare parts. To support the Government of Bangladesh in addressing this issue, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved in 2015 the Railway Rolling Stock Project to finance the procurement of 264 passenger carriages, 10 locomotives and additional maintenance equipment. ADB proposes investing further in Bangladesh Railway's overall rolling stock with the proposed project, which aims at financing 30 broad gauge diesel locomotives, 125 luggage vans for passenger trains, and 1,000 vans and wagons for freight trains. Moreover, the project proposes to finance consulting services to prepare the detailed designs of four workshops and/or sheds of diesel locomotives and diesel electric multiple units (DEMU). The total project cost is USD 400 million. The proposed project is strongly aligned with the government's Seventh Five-Year Plan, (FY2016–FY2020), which aims at developing the railway sector. It also supports the latest ADB Country Partnership Strategy 2016-2020 promoting investments in sustainable transport. The project will be implemented by Bangladesh Railway.

#### B. Poverty Targeting

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

The project does not specifically target the poor but addresses their mobility needs as the poor are important train users. In spite of considerable progress in poverty reduction, from 48.8% to 31.5 % between 2000 and 2010, the incidence of poverty in Bangladesh is high, with a third of the population considered as poor and 17.6% as extremely poor. As railway remains one of the most affordable and reliable transport mechanisms in the country, improved passenger carriage capacity will help the poor access economic opportunities and educational and health services.

#### C. Poverty and Social Analysis

**1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries:** The key outcome of the project is Bangladesh Railway's increased capacity to facilitate the transportation of goods and passengers. The most important beneficiaries are all train users (i.e. passengers of all ticketed classes and businesses using freight transportation).

**2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.** The project will in turn contribute to economic development and poverty reduction by improving basic access to markets and employment as well as administrative, health and educational facilities.

**3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the PPTA or due diligence.** The social due diligence will be based on the poverty and social assessment of railway projects recently approved by ADB and key findings will be included in the summary of the poverty reduction and social strategy (SPRSS) document. The terms of reference for the detailed designs will include due diligence on potential impacts such as involuntary resettlement and impacts on indigenous people as per the Safeguards Policy Statement (SPS).

**4. Specific analysis for policy-based lending.** N/A

## 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?**

There are no specific gender issues relevant to the project.

**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 project does not envisage making a specific contribution to gender equity and women's empowerment. However, women will equally benefit from the project as they are prominent railway users.

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

Yes  No

As the project involves only the procurement of rolling stock, the project does not have specific gender impacts.

**4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category: No gender-specific actions are envisaged**

GEN (gender equity)  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.**

The primary beneficiaries of the project are the railway users as well as BR. The poor and the excluded also use the railway, which further helps them to access economic opportunities and other services.

**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?**

The project does not lead to adverse social impacts and no specific issues regarding the participation of the poor and excluded are foreseen.

**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?**

L Information generation and sharing L Consultation L Collaboration L Partnership

**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

There are no specific issues in the project design that require the participation of the poor and excluded.

## 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

As per the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), the project is categorized as "C" for involuntary resettlement. The project involves the procurement of rolling stock and the preparation of detailed designs and as such does not lead to resettlement impacts.

**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**

<p>systems, or culture of indigenous peoples? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>As per the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), the project is categorized as "C" for indigenous peoples. The project involves the procurement of rolling stock and the preparation of detailed designs and as such does not lead to adverse social impacts on indigenous peoples.</p>
<p>2. Does it affect the territories or natural and cultural resources indigenous peoples own, use, occupy, or claim, as their ancestral domain? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>No</p>
<p>3. Will the project require broad community support of affected indigenous communities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>No.</p>
<p>4. What action plan is required to address risks to indigenous peoples as part of the PPTA or due diligence process?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples planning framework <input type="checkbox"/> Social Impact matrix</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p>
<p><b>V. OTHER SOCIAL ISSUES AND RISKS</b></p>
<p>1. What other social issues and risks should be considered in the project design?</p> <p>L Creating decent jobs and employment L Adhering to core labor standards L Labor retrenchment</p> <p>L Spread of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS L Increase in human trafficking L Affordability</p> <p>L Increase in unplanned migration L Increase in vulnerability to natural disasters L Creating political instability</p> <p>L Creating internal social conflicts L Others, please specify _____</p> <p>Indicate high (H), medium (M), low (L) for selected boxes</p> <p>The project involves the procurement of rolling stock and the preparation of detailed designs, none of the social issues specified above have been identified as potential risks.</p>
<p>2. How are these additional social issues and risks going to be addressed in the project design? N/A</p>
<p><b>VI. PPTA OR DUE DILIGENCE RESOURCE REQUIREMENT</b></p>
<p>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 (v) other social risks. Are the relevant specialists identified?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Yes, the terms of reference for the detailed designs of the maintenance workshops will include a social safeguards dimension.</p>
<p>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? No social experts have been recruited for this project as no civil works are envisaged. However, social safeguards experts will be hired as part of the preparation of the detailed designs of the workshops to conduct a social impact assessment covering involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples safeguards. The ADB Social Development Specialist in SATC will monitor the safeguards document related to the detailed design.</p>