



India: Himachal Pradesh Rural Drinking Water Improvement and Livelihood Project

Project Name	Himachal Pradesh Rural Drinking Water Improvement and Livelihood Project	
Project Number	53067-005	
Country / Economy	India	
Project Status	Approved	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Loan	
Source of Funding / Amount	Loan 4196-IND: Himachal Pradesh Rural Drinking Water Improvement and Livelihood Project	
	Ordinary capital resources	US\$ 96.30 million
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships	
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development / Rural sanitation - Rural water policy, institutional and capacity development - Rural water supply services	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming	
Description	<p>The project will provide safe, sustainable, gender-responsive, and inclusive rural water supply and rural sanitation services for about 620,000 people in 10 districts of Himachal Pradesh. The project districts are Bilaspur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmaur, Solan, and Una. Using the sector loan modality, it will upgrade rural water schemes and introduce smart water management practices to ensure the effective management of new and rehabilitated water supply assets. Further, the project will pilot an inclusive sanitation program in Sirmaur District to ensure that fecal sludge is safely managed and treated before disposal. The aspirations of rural people are growing, leading to demands for service standards similar to those in urban areas, which support meeting basic human needs, good health, and sustainable environmental outcomes. The project will strengthen institutional capacity in the executing and implementing agency, the Jal Shakti Vibhag (JSV), and in gram panchayats (local administration) to deliver efficient and sustainable services. Women's self-help groups in rural communities will be economically empowered through livelihood skills training, in particular training applicable to drinking water supply augmentation and the operation and maintenance (O&M) of village rural water supply schemes that provide opportunities to support rural livelihoods. The project will raise public awareness of the health benefits of improved water supply, sanitation, and hygiene practices to prevent the spread of disease, not least the coronavirus disease.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>About 92.9% of the state's rural population has access to drinking water from improved water sources. While this is almost double the national average of 49.1%, it lags the state's urban coverage of 98.4%. The rural water supply infrastructure is old and in poor condition, rendering it either dysfunctional or resulting in services that are of poor quality. Both an asset management system and O&M funding are lacking. There is no water metering, and supply is typically intermittent (provided for only 6-8 hours per day), with consumption averaging a low 30 liters per capita per day. Small rural water supply schemes are located in remote and steep terrain, which limits data gathering to physical field inspections, and makes rural systems difficult to manage. The current monthly tariff is fixed at INR 34.54 per connection, which is far from sufficient for even O&M cost recovery. Low-cost recovery translates into a high dependence on subsidies from the government of Himachal Pradesh for O&M, let alone for system upgrades, and renewal.</p> <p>Current data shows that 81.3% of rural households have access to improved sanitation facilities, slightly below the 85.0% of urban households. The primary onsite sanitation facilities include pit latrines and flush latrines connected to septic tanks, which discharge directly to the open environment and in open drains. A fecal sludge management facility exists only in Shimla, the state capital.</p> <p>The government of Himachal Pradesh's JSV manages water supply, including construction and the delivery of bulk water to rural villages. Sanitation is provided by the Rural Development Department. Gram panchayats are involved in the planning, implementation, and management of village water services through village water and sanitation committees constituted by the state's District Water and Sanitation Mission.</p>	
Impact	Water and sanitation services in Himachal Pradesh sustainably managed	
Project Outcome		
Description of Outcome	Safe, reliable, efficient, and sustainable drinking water and sanitation services provided in project districts	
Progress Toward Outcome		
Implementation Progress		
Description of Project Outputs	Rural water supply and sanitation systems in project districts improved Institutions and capacity of stakeholders for rural water supply and sanitation services strengthened	
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)		
Geographical Location	Himachal Pradesh	
Safeguard Categories		
Environment	B	
Involuntary Resettlement	B	
Indigenous Peoples	B	

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	

Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	All consultant recruitment will adhere to the ADB Procurement Policy and Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time).
Procurement	All procurement of goods and works will adhere to the ADB Procurement Policy and Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time).

Responsible ADB Officer	Kohlhase, Jude Ernest
Responsible ADB Department	South Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Urban Development and Water Division, SARD
Executing Agencies	Jal Shakti Vibhag, Government of Himachal Pradesh Suresh Mahajan, Chief Engineer, PMU Room No. 431 Armsdale Building, HP Secretariat, Shimla-171002, Himachal Pradesh

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	31 May 2021
Fact Finding	24 Aug 2021 to 02 Sep 2021
MRM	27 Apr 2022
Approval	21 Jul 2022
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	21 Jul 2022

Loan 4196-IND

	Financing Plan		Loan Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)		Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	139.10		Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB	96.30	-	0.00	0.00		%
Counterpart	42.80		Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing	0.00	-	0.00	0.00		%

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/53067-005/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=53067-005
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