

## INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	India	Project Title:	Bihar New Ganga Bridge Project
Lending/Financing Modality:	MFF-Facility (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 project will build a new bridge across the Ganges River in Patna, India, consisting of a six lane bridge 9.760 kilometers long, approximately 10 kilometers of approach viaduct and roads, tolling and service facilities, and widening 3 kilometers of a connecting national highway. The objective is to improve transport connectivity for Patna, the state capital of Bihar, and the surrounding regions, in particular the northern Bihar across the Ganges River. The existing bridge (Mahatma Gandhi Setu) is in deteriorating condition, restricted to 2-lanes, leading to severe traffic congestion, and is closed for heavy vehicles. The proposed new bridge will provide an alternate crossing and become a critical link connecting Northern Bihar to Patna and Southern Bihar, ensuring access to basic services, increasing business opportunities, and promoting social cohesiveness. As Bihar is one of the poorer states in India, the proposed project is expected to have significant developmental impacts. The Bihar state government recognizes that economic growth and delivery of infrastructure and social services to the population are instrumental for poverty alleviation. The project is a part of transport master plan for improving connectivity between northern and southern Bihar, and is integral to the overall road sector improvements that ADB is already financing. The targeted impact is consistent with country's priorities in the transport sector to increase movement of people and goods in a safer and more efficient and sustainable manner.

#### B. Targeting Classification

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

#### C. Poverty and Social Analysis

##### 1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries.

Bihar is the 10th largest state by area and 3rd largest state by population. Almost 58% of Bihar is under 25, which is the highest percentage in India. The state has a significant agricultural base with a small industrial sector. According to Government of India estimates based on 2011–2012, 33.7% of Bihar's population lives below the poverty line as compared to the all-India level of 21.9%. According to the 2011 census, the literacy rate is 63.4% for Bihar. Potential beneficiaries include residents, road users, tourists, businesses and commercial services.

##### 2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.

Design features will be incorporated to improve road safety. The project will help to reduce travel time across the river for long distance traffic as well as provide improved access for local trips, especially for residents living on the northern bank of the river traveling to Patna to access commercial and public services. The Resettlement Plan will include initiatives to conduct a needs assessment for livelihood regeneration measures and then will implement the project. Measures will be included in the contracting documents to encourage hiring of local population during implementation.

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

Adequate TA resources have been allocated to engage a Social Development Specialist to undertake social safeguard planning, gender analysis, and poverty and social assessment.

##### 4. Specific analysis for policy-based lending.

not applicable.

### 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?

Majority of women in the project area are involved in household work, since rural women rarely engage in outside work with exception of very poor households. The project will improve connectivity which will provide better access to health services, higher levels of education, economic opportunities, and social interactions for women, especially those living on the northern banks of the Ganges River. Women who live in the northern part of Bihar will be able to access higher quality services in the state capital of Patna, which is located in the southern part of Bihar across the Ganges River.

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

Proactive features will be explored during project design and potential features include: (i) ensuring that women and men are given equal opportunities for employment on the project; and (ii) ensuring gender sensitive design in administrative buildings. Provisions are in the bidding documents for the civil works contractors to ensure that all applicable labor laws will be complied including not employ child labor for construction; encourage employment of the poor, particularly women; and not differentiate wages between men and women for work of equal value.

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

Yes  No

not applicable.

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.

Government agencies, project beneficiaries (residents, road users, tourists), affected persons, NGOs, business and community groups.

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?

Workshops, community mobilization, and consultation conducted for discussion on the potential needs of the community, social-related issues such as gender, HIV/AIDs, human trafficking, child labor, environment and social safeguard issues.

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 **M** 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

Poor and excluded affected persons impacted by land acquisition are consulted and surveyed. Additional assistance and provisions such as livelihood rehabilitation will be outlined in Resettlement Plan.

### 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

According to the feasibility study, about 23 private structures and 126 hectares of land located in Patna and Vaishaili districts will need to be acquired, out of which about 20% is government land. Majority of the affected land is agricultural land. Resettlement planning documents will be prepared according to government and ADB policies and regulations.

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

not applicable.

3. Will the project require broad community support of affected indigenous communities?  Yes  No  
not applicable.

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(L)       Adhering to core labor standards(L)       Labor retrenchment(L)  
 Spread of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS (L)       Increase in human trafficking (L)       Affordability(L)  
 Increase in unplanned migration(L)       Increase in vulnerability to natural disasters(L)       Creating political instability(L)  
 Creating internal social conflicts(L)       Others, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

2. How are these additional social issues and risks going to be addressed in the project design?

The proposed bridge will supplement the operations of an existing bridge. Tolling will be in place however local population will receive special rate to ensure affordability. A construction supervision consultant will be in place to monitor core labor standard. Awareness building sessions for communicable diseases will be carried out for civil works laborers on a regular basis.

#### 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

Adequate TA resources have been allocated to engage a Social Development Specialist to undertake social safeguard planning, gender analysis, and poverty and social assessment.

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?

Adequate TA resources have been allocated to engage a Social Development Specialist to undertake social safeguard planning, gender analysis, and poverty and social assessment.