



Initial Poverty and Social Analysis

Project Number: 51308-009
May 2021

India: Tripura Power Distribution Strengthening and Generation Efficiency Improvement Project

This document is being disclosed to the public in accordance with ADB's Access to Information Policy.

Asian Development Bank

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 12 March 2021)

Currency unit	–	Indian rupee/s (₹)
₹1.00	=	\$0.01376
\$1.00	=	₹72.635

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
-----	---	------------------------

{WEIGHTS AND MEASURES}

km	–	kilometer
kV	–	kilovolt
kWh	–	kilowatt-hour
MW	–	megawatt

NOTES

- (iii) The fiscal year (FY) of the Government of India and its agencies ends on 31 March. "FY" before a calendar year denotes the year in which the fiscal year ends, e.g., FY2021 ends on 31 March 2021.
- (iv) In this report, "\$" refers to United States dollars.

In preparing any country program or strategy, financing any project, or by making any designation of or reference to a particular territory or geographic area in this document, the Asian Development Bank does not intend to make any judgments as to the legal or other status of any territory or area.

INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	<input type="text" value="India"/>	Project Title:	<input type="text" value="India: Tripura Power Distribution Strengthening and Generation Efficiency Improvement Project"/>
Lending/Financing Modality:	<input type="text" value="Project"/>	Department/Division:	<input type="text" value="SARD/ SAEN"/>

I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

The proposed investment project supports (i) India's Nationally Determined Contributions goal of emission reduction by replacing less efficient generation systems with efficient ones and lowering distribution losses^a and (ii) United Nations Sustainable Development Goals that focus on addressing poverty, empowering women, tackling climate change, and building resilient, reliable, sustainable and inclusive infrastructure.^b The project aligns with ADB's country partnership strategy for India, 2018–2022, which support (i) providing India's less developed eastern and northeastern regions with better energy links; (ii) investments in infrastructure and institution building in states and areas with poor access to energy, and (iii) improves financial and technical performance of distribution utilities by deploying smart grid technologies, integrating with renewable energy sources, and helping build necessary institutional capacity.^c

B. Poverty Targeting

General intervention Individual or household (TI-H) Geographic (TI-G) Non-income MDGs (TI-M1, M2, etc.)

Improvement of the electricity services will contribute to poverty reduction generally. Addressing issues in the distribution sector will help to support other economic activities and to create a better enabling environment for rural income generation.^d Access to reliable electricity supply will help manufacturing and service industries, agricultural production, as well as small-scale skilled activities such as local crafts.

C. Poverty and Social Analysis

1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries.

The project beneficiaries are the consumers of electricity in both rural and urban area. The United Nations identifies access to electricity as being particularly beneficial for women and vulnerable people.^e With an estimated population of 3.67 million (as 2011; latest official census year), Tripura is the second most populous of India's North Eastern Region.^f Despite being situated geographically as an economic gateway for international trade between Northeast India and Bangladesh, the state has limited industrial activity, as evidenced by the state's low per capita electricity consumption of 470 kilowatt-hours (kWh), as compared to the national average of 1,122 kWh (as of 2017).^g The proposed project will extend electrification to rural areas under Output 2, which will install and upgrade 1,500 kilometers (km) of 33 kilovolts (kV) and 11 kV distribution lines. Output 3 will directly benefit an estimated 100,000 households, who will be equipped with smart meters and an advanced metering infrastructure with online meter reading, billing, and collection. The project will contribute towards the reliability of power supply among the existing consumers and will help in providing uninterrupted electricity supply to social infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, etc.

2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes.

Tripura's existing distribution network is aged, overloaded, and uses antiquated technologies making its operation and maintenance challenging and the lack of upstream distribution strengthening investments has further exacerbated network issues. The poor quality of supply is one of the contributory factors to low socio-economic development in Tripura compared to other states. Strengthening the distribution network will enable a reliable and quality electricity supply, which will promote economic development and poverty reduction through new employment and enterprise opportunities.

3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the transaction TA or due diligence.

Project preparation includes dedicated resources for social, poverty, and gender analysis, livelihoods assessments, socio-economic baseline survey, and analysis of potential safeguard issues. The project will prepare a poverty reduction and social strategy and gender equality and social inclusion action plan.

II. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

1. What are the key gender issues in the sector and/or subsector that are likely to be relevant to this project or program?

Women in Tripura are generally active in government and economic activity.^h The Tripura government actively promotes women's participation in income-generation through the National Skill Development Corporation.ⁱ However considerable differences remain in opportunities between rural and urban areas, with rural women lacking in access to basic public infrastructure, social services, and income generating opportunities. Lack of access to

<p>electricity and energy poverty exacerbate these differences.^j The project will have indirect positive impacts, particularly benefitting women and the very poor, by improve energy access and the quality of electricity distribution.</p> <p>2. Does the proposed project or program have the potential to contribute 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? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Project preparation will explore opportunities to make the proposed project more gender responsive, including requesting the project implementing agency to conduct a gender self-assessment and identifying project gender and social inclusion (GESI) performance targets. The project will also prepare and implement workshop materials and programs on effective gender and social inclusion mainstreaming, focusing on both implementing agency's internal operations as well service provision to end users.</p> <p>3. Could the proposed project have an adverse impact on women and/or girls or widen gender inequality? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category: <input type="checkbox"/> GEN (gender equity) <input type="checkbox"/> EGM (effective gender mainstreaming) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SGE (some gender elements) <input type="checkbox"/> NGE (no gender elements)</p>
<p>III. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT</p>
<p>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 main project stakeholders are state government, utility, electricity consumers, businesses and affected men and women, including those from poor communities, and community-based organizations.</p> <p>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? As part of project planning, consultations in project areas will be carried out with members of affected village communities, including separate consultations with women and men. Consultations will ensure stakeholder participation in identifying and minimizing negative impacts.</p> <p>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? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M) Information generation and sharing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (M) Consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration (N) <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership (N) There are numerous CSOs working in Tripura that focus on general social development issues. The project will engage with NGOs during project design to look for opportunities to collaborate in assessing how improved electrification can help contribute to poverty reduction. Specific CSOs will be identified during preparation.</p> <p>4. Are there issues during project design for which participation of the poor and excluded is important? What are they and how should they be addressed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>IV. SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS</p>
<p>A. Involuntary Resettlement Category <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI</p> <p>1. Does the project have the potential to involve involuntary land acquisition resulting in physical and economic displacement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No The proposed project will not involuntarily acquire land or restrict land use or access. The proposed project will construct new 33/11 kV low tension lines, install new distribution transformers, upgrade and replace existing lines following the existing right-of-way. All substations receiving improvements under this project are pre-existing.</p> <p>2. What action plan is required to address involuntary resettlement as part of the transaction TA or due diligence process? Project due diligence will verify that proposed routings have been designed to avoid structures and that no physical displacement or economic displacement will occur. Where the proposed for distribution line construction and upgrading pass thorough agricultural or plantation areas, due diligence will screen for impacts to both titled or non-titled land users and to their livelihoods in accordance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). <input type="checkbox"/> Resettlement plan <input type="checkbox"/> Resettlement framework <input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p>
<p>B. Indigenous Peoples Category <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI</p> <p>1. Does the proposed project have the potential to directly or indirectly affect the dignity, human rights, livelihood systems, or culture of indigenous peoples? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Construction of low voltage lines and the construction and upgrading of small substations is not assessed to affect dignity, human rights, livelihood system or culture of the people. Anticipated impacts are mostly indirect and positive in nature. The specific nature of impacts will be analyzed as part of project due diligence.</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Tripura is a tribal area and autonomous administrative division under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India, and the project therefore affects territories of indigenous people. Roughly one-third (31.8%) of the population of Tripura are recognized as belonging to scheduled tribes. Collectively these scheduled tribes govern approximately two-thirds (68%) of the state's land area.^k As a general intervention to reduce poverty, the project will have consequent economic and social benefits for tribal energy consumers.</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>Project impacts to indigenous peoples are primarily indirect and beneficial in nature. Any potential involuntary resettlement under the project would be minimal and temporary in nature. No physical displacement of indigenous peoples is anticipated.</p> <p>4. What action plan is required to address risks to indigenous peoples as part of the transaction TA or due diligence process?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples plan <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous peoples planning framework <input type="checkbox"/> Social impact matrix <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental and social management system arrangement <input type="checkbox"/> None</p>
<p>V. OTHER SOCIAL ISSUES AND RISKS</p>
<p>1. What other social issues and risks should be considered in the project design?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L) Creating decent jobs and employment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L) Adhering to core labor standards <input type="checkbox"/> Labor retrenchment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L) Spread of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in human trafficking <input type="checkbox"/> Affordability <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in unplanned migration <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in vulnerability to natural disasters <input type="checkbox"/> Creating political instability. <input type="checkbox"/> Creating internal social conflicts <input type="checkbox"/> Others, please specify _____</p> <p>2. How are these additional social issues and risks going to be addressed in the project design?</p> <p>Limited employment opportunities will be available during project implementation. Standard assurances on labor and working conditions will be included in civil work contracts. Workers will be educated on the prevention of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS.</p>
<p>VI. TRANSACTION TA OR DUE DILIGENCE RESOURCE REQUIREMENT</p>
<p>1. Do the terms of reference for the transaction TA (or other due diligence) contain key information needed to be gathered during transaction TA 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>The project TA includes dedicated resources for poverty and social impact assessment and gender and social safeguards planning. A specialist consultant has been contracted.</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 transaction TA or due diligence?</p> <p>The TA includes one international social consultant. This consultant's terms of reference provide for poverty, social and gender analysis. The consultant will be tasked with leading a field survey team for impact verification and information disclosure.</p>

^a Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change. 2015. *India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions – Towards Climate Justice*. Delhi.

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

^c ADB. 2017. *Country Partnership Strategy: India, 2018–2022—Accelerating Inclusive Economic Transformation*. Manila.

^d UNDP. 2005. *How Do Rural Energy Services Reduce Poverty?*

^e United Nations. 2018. *Accelerating SDG 7 Achievement, Policy Brief 12: Global Progress of SDG 7 - Energy and Gender*. New York.

^f Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs. 2011. *Census 2011*. Delhi.

^g Indian Energy Sector. 2016. *State-wise Per Capita Consumption of Electricity in India*. Uttar Pradesh.

^h De, Aparna and Koushik Das. 2018. *International Journal of Social Science*; New Delhi Vol. 8(2): 69-78.

ⁱ Ministry of Skill Development. 2020. *Skill Development Tripura*. New Delhi: National Informatics Centre

^j Sadath, Anver and Rajesh H Acharya. 2017. "Assessing the extent and intensity of energy poverty using Multidimensional Energy Poverty Index- Empirical evidence from households in India." *Energy Policy* Vol 102:540-548.

^k Government of Tripura, Tribal Research and Cultural Institute, Tribal Welfare Department. *Tribal Population of Tripura*. Tripura.