



# Initial Poverty and Social Assessment

---

Project Number: 45923  
April 2012

## THA: Provincial Solar Power Project

An initial poverty and social assessment (IPSA) is prepared in the early stage of the project cycle to assess the significance of social issues for a project. In accordance with ADB's public communications policy (PCP, 2005), the IPSA is disclosed upon completion. The final summary social assessment is included as an appendix to the project's report and recommendation of the President.

**Asian Development Bank**

## INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	Thailand	Project Title:	Provincial Solar Power Project
Lending/Financing Modality:	Project Loan	Department/ Division:	Private Sector Operations Department Infrastructure Division 2

### I. POVERTY ISSUES

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

Based on the country poverty assessment, the country partnership strategy and the sector analysis, describe how the project would directly or indirectly contribute to poverty reduction and how it is linked to the poverty reduction strategy of the partner country.

The country partnership strategy for Thailand 2007–2011 is directed at three core strategic areas—infrastructure, environmental sustainability, and capital markets.<sup>1</sup> The government’s Alternative Energy Development Plan, approved by the Cabinet on 28 January 2009, notes the immense potential energy in Thailand’s solar radiation and the savings on energy imports that can be made through its use, with private sector investment. The Project also supports the Government’s long-term objective for the Thailand Clean Technology Fund (CTF) Investment Plan to utilize CTF resources to support private sector renewable energy projects.<sup>2</sup>

#### B. Targeting Classification

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

The power that will be generated from the power stations of the Project will be transmitted to the grid and will therefore be available to broad power consumers (residential, commercial and industrial). The power will essentially help in the overall economic development of the country through reliable and clean source of energy.

#### C. Poverty Analysis

1. If the project is classified as TI-H, or if it is policy-based, what type of poverty impact analysis is needed? **NA**
2. What resources are allocated in the PPTA/due diligence? **NA**
3. If GI, is there any opportunity for pro-poor design (e.g., social inclusion subcomponents, cross subsidy, pro-poor governance, and pro-poor growth)? The Project has no pro-poor design element. The Project will entail the construction of two solar power generation power plants in Ayutthaya and Chaiyapum provinces of Thailand.

### II. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

#### A. Initial Social Analysis

Based on existing information:

1. Who are the potential primary beneficiaries of the project? How do the poor and the socially excluded benefit from the project? The primary beneficiaries of the Project are broad power consumers (residential, commercial and industrial).
2. What are the potential needs of beneficiaries in relation to the proposed project? **None**
3. What are the potential constraints in accessing the proposed benefits and services, and how will the project address them? **None**

#### B. Consultation and Participation

1. Indicate the potential initial stakeholders. The potential initial stakeholders are power consumers, government regulators, host communities, and national and local interest groups.

<sup>1</sup> ADB. 2007. *Country Partnership Strategy: Thailand, 2007–2011*. Manila.

<sup>2</sup> CTF promotes scaled-up financing for demonstration, deployment and transfer of low carbon technologies with a significant potential for long-term greenhouse gas emissions savings. CTF is part of the Climate Investment Funds that are implemented by multilateral development banks to bridge the financing and learning gap until the next international climate change agreement.

2. What type of consultation and participation (C&P) is required during the PPTA or project processing (e.g., workshops, community mobilization, involvement of nongovernment organizations and community-based organizations, etc.)? The consultation requirements will mainly be done in the context of environmental and social impact assessment. Information sharing and solicitation of feed back from the host community will be mainly conducted.

3. What level of participation is envisaged for project design?

Information sharing     Consultation     Collaborative decision making     Empowerment

4. Will a C&P plan be prepared during the project design for project implementation?  Yes     No

**C. Gender and Development**

**Proposed Gender Mainstreaming Category:** No gender element

1. What are the key gender issues in the sector/subsector that are likely to be relevant to this project/program?  
There is no anticipated gender issue in the sector or subsector or the project.

2. Does the proposed project/program have the potential to promote gender equality and/or women's empowerment by improving women's access to and use of opportunities, services, resources, assets, and participation in decision making?

Yes     No

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

Yes     No

**III. SOCIAL SAFEGUARD ISSUES AND OTHER SOCIAL RISKS**

Issue	Nature of Social Issue	Significant/Limited/No Impact/Not Known	Plan or Other Action Required
<b>Involuntary Resettlement</b>	The land for Phase 2A and 2B covering around 82 hectares was acquired on a willing-buyer-willing-seller basis. No land acquisition is required for transmission line and access road.	No impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None
<b>Indigenous Peoples</b>	The area where the project will be constructed is not occupied, used or owned by any tribal groups.	No impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None
<b>Labor</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Labor Retrenchment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Core Labor Standards	Approximately 600 laborers are needed during Project construction, around 20 regular staff during project operation, and 80 staff for periodic maintenance and cleaning of solar panels.	Limited	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Action
<b>Affordability</b>	None	No impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action
<b>Other Risks and/or Vulnerabilities</b> <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS <input type="checkbox"/> Human Trafficking <input type="checkbox"/> Others (conflict, political instability, etc.), please specify	None	No impact	<input type="checkbox"/> No Action

**IV. PPTA/DUE DILIGENCE RESOURCE REQUIREMENT**

1. Do the TOR for the PPTA (or other due diligence) include poverty, social and gender analysis and the relevant specialist/s?

Yes

2. Are resources (consultants, survey budget, and workshop) allocated for conducting poverty, social and/or gender analysis, and C&P during the PPTA/due diligence?  Yes  No The social impact assessment, including the conduct of consultation activities will mainly be under taken by the Project sponsor during the IEE preparation.