

INITIAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Country:	Republic of Uzbekistan	Project Title:	Advanced Electricity Metering Project Phase 2
Lending/Financing Modality:	Project loan	Department/Division:	CWRD/CWEN

I. POVERTY IMPACT AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

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

The Country Partnership Strategy was aligned with the Uzbekistan Welfare Improvement Strategy (WIS), which was based on the country poverty assessment carried out in 2007. The project is a priority development program covered in the Country Operations Business Plan 2012-2014. The project will increase the reliability of the power supply, benefiting all including the poor.

B. Targeting Classification:

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

The proposed infrastructure contributes to improvements in energy efficiency and electricity distribution services, benefiting all including the poor but without specific poverty targets.

C. Poverty and Social Analysis

1. Key issues and potential beneficiaries. The potential primary beneficiaries of the project would be the general population and industries in Andijan, Ferghana, Kashkadarya, Namangan, and Surkhandarya regions through improved tariff collection operation efficiency. More reliable power supply is expected to benefit firms and industries, which will provide increased economic and job opportunities for households, including the poor and socially excluded. No potential constraints to access the services have been identified. The issue will be explored further during project preparation and due diligence activities.

2. Impact channels and expected systemic changes. The project will improve the financial sustainability of the power sector through reducing commercial losses, which will in turn, allows the power utility to reinvest in upgrading its infrastructure assets (generation, transmission and distribution assets). The project will also improve the utility's load management capability with data and information made available with the advanced metering technology. These improvements will contribute to improving power system stability and reducing power outages, which are essential for improved quality of life, increased economic activities and job opportunities for all, including the poor and socially excluded.

3. Focus of (and resources allocated in) the TA or due diligence. An international social development expert (two person-months) will be recruited to undertake rapid poverty and social analysis of the targeted regions.

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? Women benefit from improved power supply to households because they are often assigned roles as homemakers and caregivers for the family. When women have reliable power, they are better able to perform essential child care responsibilities. Gender stereotypes are reinforced by unreliable power supply since women need to spend more time on household tasks and cannot engage in income-generating and educational activities. Women workers are at risk of being dismissed after AEM installation since they have lower level of education and skills compare to men. At the same time there is a potential for women in the communities to become 'agents of change' for efficient energy use to empower them and become informed customers. The PPTA will conduct a rapid gender analysis and will assess opportunities to design project interventions, which will promote women employment and career development in the energy sector. The PPTA will also identify entry points to improve women's access to social services in the project area. The Phase 1 project is at a starting stage. Under the Phase 1 project, the gender specialist in the project management unit (PMU) has been appointed, a series of GAD training sessions were given to UE staff, the collaboration with the National GAD Machinery at the rayon level has been initiated, and the public information program that include GAP was developed and formally approved by the Chairman of Uzbekenergo in March 2013.

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 Please explain.

- Due to increased reliability of electricity supply to domestic households, women, will generally spend less

<p>time and effort performing domestic tasks. Households with higher incomes, affordable and reliable supply of electricity will facilitate acquisition of labor-saving devices (washing machines, electric ovens, etc.). This will liberate them from manual work. Longer and more predictable hours of electricity supply will increase productivity of home-based industries which are mostly women-owned.</p> <p>Training and employment opportunities for women will be available at the regional data management and customer services centers. Training in energy efficiency and consumer rights and participation in project monitoring will empower women groups as 'agents of change'. Customer care unit and centers with women's participation will improve a feedback mechanism and be an integral part of the project.</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 Please explain.</p> <p>4. Indicate the intended gender mainstreaming category: <input type="checkbox"/> GEN (gender equity theme) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EGM (effective gender mainstreaming) <input type="checkbox"/> SGE (some gender elements) <input type="checkbox"/> NGE (no gender elements)</p>
III. PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT
<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. Utility staff engaged in meter reading and tariff collection, and general households, business, and public and social Institution customers.</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? Stakeholders' consultations through community meetings, discussions, and interviews will be conducted during the PPTA. Strategies to encourage poor women's participation as individual consumers or as representative of interested groups will be encouraged. At the same time, women leaders in government and business will be involved to participate in the consumer education campaign.</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? Uzbekistan has a number of NGOs with whom the project may work on end-user awareness raising. The PPTA will prepare a shortlist of relevant NGOs. M Information generation and sharing L Consultation L Collaboration N Partnership</p> <p>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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
IV. SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS
<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</p> <p>2. What action plan is required to address involuntary resettlement as part of the TA or due diligence process? <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 type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" 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</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>3. Will the project require broad community support of affected indigenous communities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>4. What action plan is required to address risks to indigenous peoples as part of the TA or due diligence process? <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p>
V. OTHER SOCIAL ISSUES AND RISKS
<p>1. What other social issues and risks should be considered in the project design? <input type="checkbox"/> Creating decent jobs and employment <input type="checkbox"/> Adhering to core labor standards <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Labor retrenchment <input 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>

2. How are these additional social issues and risks going to be addressed in the project design? Similar to the phase 1 project, the project envisages including a retraining component for the controllers who will be learning new skills.

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 TA 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

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? International social development (gender) expert (2 person-month)