



Report and Recommendation of the President to the Board of Directors

INTERNAL

Project Number: 42267-034
June 2023

Proposed Loan for Additional Financing India: Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project

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Asian Development Bank

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 9 May 2023)

Currency unit	–	Indian rupee/s (₹)
₹1.00	=	\$0.01
\$1.00	=	₹81.81

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
AMRUT	–	Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation
COVID-19	–	coronavirus disease
GESI	–	gender equality and social inclusion
GOR	–	Government of Rajasthan
km	–	kilometer
LSGD	–	Local Self Government Department
mld	–	million liters per day
O&M	–	operation and maintenance
PAM	–	project administration manual
PIU	–	project implementation unit
PPP	–	public–private partnership
RUDSICO	–	Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water, Sewerage and Infrastructure Corporation Limited
STP	–	sewage treatment plant
ULB	–	urban local body
WSS	–	water supply and sanitation

NOTES

- (i) The fiscal year (FY) of the Government of India, Government of Gujarat and its agencies ends on 31 March. “FY” before a calendar year denotes the year in which the fiscal year ends, e.g., FY2023 ends on 31 March 2023.
- (ii) In this report, “\$” refers to United States dollars.

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PROJECT AT A GLANCE

1. Basic Data		Project Number: 42267-034	
Project Name	Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project - Additional Financing	Department/Division	SARD/SAUW
Country	India	Executing Agency	Local Self Government Department (LSGD)
Borrower	India		
Country Economic Indicators	https://www.adb.org/Documents/LinkedDocs/?id=42267-034-CEI		
Portfolio at a Glance	https://www.adb.org/Documents/LinkedDocs/?id=42267-034-PortAtaGlance		
2. Sector	Subsector(s)	ADB Financing (\$ million)	
✓ Water and other urban infrastructure and services	Other urban services		43.000
	Urban flood protection		13.000
	Urban sanitation		97.800
	Urban water supply		46.200
		Total	200.000
3. Operational Priorities		Climate Change Information	
✓ OP1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities		GHG reductions (tons per annum)	40,451
✓ OP2: Accelerating progress in gender equality		Climate Change impact on the Project	High
✓ OP3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability			
✓ OP4: Making cities more livable			
✓ OP6: Strengthening governance and institutional capacity			
		ADB Financing	
		Adaptation (\$ million)	78.050
		Mitigation (\$ million)	44.750
		Cofinancing	
		Adaptation (\$ million)	0.000
		Mitigation (\$ million)	0.000
Sustainable Development Goals		Gender	
SDG 1.a		Effective gender mainstreaming (EGM)	✓
SDG 5.4			
SDG 6.1, 6.2			
SDG 10.2			
SDG 11.4, 11.7, 11.b			
SDG 12.2			
SDG 13.a			
		Poverty Targeting	
		Geographic Targeting	✓
4. Risk Categorization:	Low		
5. Safeguard Categorization	Environment: B Involuntary Resettlement: B Indigenous Peoples: B		
6. Financing			
Modality and Sources		Amount (\$ million)	
ADB		200.000	
Sovereign Sector (Regular Loan): Ordinary capital resources		200.000	
Cofinancing		0.000	
None		0.000	
Counterpart		99.800	
Government		99.800	
Total		299.800	
Currency of ADB Financing: US Dollar			

INDIA

RAJASTHAN SECONDARY TOWNS DEVELOPMENT SECTOR PROJECT

(additional financing)

- Sanitation Subproject (34)
- Water Supply Subproject (15)
- Project Town (27)
- Project Town (additional financing) (16)
- Drainage Subproject (5)
- Heritage Living Subproject (8)
- Zone Office
- RSIDIC Industrial Area



- ★ National Capital
- State Capital
- District Headquarters
- National Highway
- Other Roads
- District Boundary
- State or Union Territory Boundary
- International Boundary

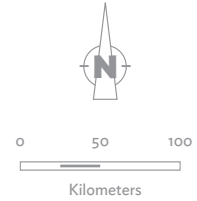
EAP-PMU Externally Aided Project-Project Management Unit

HQ Headquarters

RSIDIC Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation

RUDSICO Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage and Infrastructure Corporation Limited

Boundaries are not necessarily authoritative.



This map was produced by the cartography unit of the Asian Development Bank. The boundaries, colors, denominations, and any other information shown on this map do not imply, on the part of the Asian Development Bank, any judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries, colors, denominations, or information.

I. THE PROPOSAL

1. I submit for your approval the following report and recommendation on a proposed loan to India for the additional financing of the Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project.¹

2. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved the ongoing project on 25 September 2020 to improve water supply and sanitation (WSS) systems in 27 secondary towns.² The additional financing (the project) will continue supporting the Government of Rajasthan (GOR) in its commitment to reduce basic infrastructure gaps in secondary towns by expanding WSS services in at least 10 urban local bodies (ULBs), which will benefit 1.2 million people.³ In addition, the project will expand its scope to respond to growing climate risks and other complex urban development challenges. It will bring a range of innovative solutions to enhance climate resilience and improve livability in at least 11 ULBs in Rajasthan. To ease water stress for Rajasthan industries, the project will pilot public–private partnerships (PPPs) in Rajasthan’s WSS sector. This will deepen private sector engagement and financing.⁴

II. THE PROJECT

A. Rationale

3. **Additional financing criteria.** The project meets the eligibility criteria for additional financing, as it remains technically feasible, economically viable, and financially sound; it is accorded high priority by the GOR; it is consistent with the project development objectives; and it is consistent with ADB’s country partnership strategy for India, 2023–2027.⁵ The ongoing project is performing well as it (i) has demonstrated satisfactory implementation progress, with cumulative contract awards of \$259.5 million (86.5% of the loan amount), disbursements of \$121.4 million (46.8%), and uncommitted loan balance of \$40.5 million (13.6% of the loan amount) as of 1 May 2023; (ii) is *on track* to deliver the expected outputs and outcomes, with 77% of physical progress in WSS pipe networks and good progress in construction of associated treatment plants; (iii) has demonstrated satisfactory compliance with the requirements of ADB’s Safeguard Policy Statement (2009); (iv) has successfully managed risks; and (v) is rated *on track* in the project performance rating system.

4. **Water supply and sanitation gaps.** As indicated in the report and recommendation of the President for the ongoing project, gaps remain in the provision of basic infrastructure and services like WSS, induced by urbanization outpacing resource capacity to provide high-quality services, particularly in secondary towns. Urban WSS in many of Rajasthan’s secondary towns is either insufficient or unreliable, resulting in dissatisfaction and deteriorating living conditions of residents because of untreated wastewater and sludge, and wasting precious resources because

¹ ADB. 2020. [India: Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project](#). Manila.

² The ongoing loan initially covered 14 project towns. A change in scope was approved on 27 December 2021 to support improvement of sanitation systems in an additional 13 project towns. Secondary towns are class 2 and class 3 cities with a population of 50,000–99,999 and of 20,000–49,999, respectively (Government of India. 2011. *Census of India*. Delhi). Under the ongoing loan, heritage towns and other towns with populations below 20,000 or above 100,000 are included as they have similar characteristics and urgency to provide WSS systems.

³ Urban local body refers to a local public authority in India that administers a city or a town with a specific population.

⁴ Approved Report and Recommendation of the President for the original project (accessible from the list of linked documents in [Appendix 2](#)).

⁵ ADB. Forthcoming. Country Partnership Strategy: India, 2023–2027—Catalyze Robust, Climate-Resilient, and Inclusive Growth. Unpublished.

of system water leaks. Aligning with key national programs,⁶ the GOR continues to execute its sector development plan for urban WSS, including investment and sustainability road maps, with an emphasis on secondary towns.⁷ The project will continue the ongoing loan's support to the GOR for reducing the WSS gap in secondary towns.

5. **Complex development challenges.** Climate change is exacerbating water scarcity in Rajasthan, which is one of the most water-stressed states in India. Temperatures are rising and heat waves and droughts are becoming more prolonged and more frequent, especially in arid and semi-arid climate zones, which cover 50% of the state. Drinking water has been a priority for the GOR, especially since the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic; this has made it challenging for growing industries and the agriculture sector to secure water.⁸ Water security has become a critical determinant in the low-income state of Rajasthan and its sustainable growth.⁹ During the wet season, intensified hourly and daily precipitation levels in all climate zones trigger flash floods and disrupt livelihoods in ULBs that lack sufficient drainage infrastructure.¹⁰

6. The pandemic exposed Rajasthan's vulnerability to external shocks. Tourism, one of the major economic drivers in Rajasthan before COVID-19, was hit hard by the pandemic, with arrivals dropping by 71% in 2020, causing millions of job losses and wiping out many micro, small, and medium-sized businesses in tourism.¹¹ Reviving tourism is critical to boosting livelihoods and rebuilding the economy in the post-COVID-19 era, and secondary and heritage towns will play a vital role in that recovery. The project acknowledges the evolving role of the GOR in bringing innovative and resilient solutions to the complex growth challenges of many ULBs, while remaining committed to providing WSS in all urban areas.

7. **ADB assistance and lessons.** ADB has been a major development partner for Rajasthan for more than 20 years.¹² ADB has provided a mix of investment projects, technical assistance, and policy-based lending; interventions have targeted policy and institutional reform as well as practical and innovative solutions for improved economic conditions, health, and overall quality of life.¹³ The project continues ADB's strategic partnership with the GOR, drawing on experiences and lessons from past interventions in Rajasthan and across Asia. Among those lessons: (i) the GOR should provide strong leadership and close guidance to ULBs to design impactful investment projects and ensure the sustainability of created assets; (ii) the GOR should obtain early ULB commitment to increase staffing and should provide adequate support to build the operational and financial capacity of ULBs; (iii) the GOR should determine adequate contract and project implementation periods reflecting the scale and nature of project works; (iv) the GOR should build proper incentives and mechanisms for private sector engagement to ensure

⁶ Urban infrastructure reforms include the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), AMRUT 2.0, Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India [SBM]), and SBM 2.0.

⁷ GOR, Local Self Government Department. 2020. *Fifteen-Year Sector Development Plan for Urban Water Supply and Sanitation*. Jaipur.

⁸ 83% of available water resources were used for agriculture, 11% for drinking water, and 6% for industry and other uses in pre-COVID-19 Rajasthan according to International Finance Corporation. 2017. *Rajasthan Water Assessment – Potential for Private Sector Interventions*. New Delhi.

⁹ According to the published data from the Reserve Bank of India for 2021–2022, the per capita gross domestic product of Rajasthan is ₹135,218, which is lower than the nationwide one of ₹172,913.

¹⁰ Usually, the wet season in Rajasthan is from mid-June to end of September.

¹¹ GOR, Department of Tourism. 2021. *Annual Progress Report 2020–2021*. Jaipur.

¹² ADB. 2021. *Rajasthan Rising: A Partnership for Strong Institutions and More Livable Cities*. Manila.

¹³ ADB. [India: Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project](#); ADB. [India: Rajasthan Urban Sector Development Investment Program](#); ADB. [India: Rajasthan Urban Sector Development Program](#); ADB. 2017. *Technical Assistance Report: Preparing the Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Investment Program*. Manila; and ADB. 2021. *Technical Assistance Report: Promoting Smart and Integrated Urban Planning for Livability and Cultural Economy in Rajasthan*. Manila.

professional operation and maintenance (O&M) of assets and transfer of skills to ULBs; (v) the GOR should design an integrated approach to sanitation and cost-effective city-wide inclusive sanitation to benefit all, including the poor and vulnerable; (vi) the GOR should carefully make realistic projections of population growth to avoid over-design of WSS assets; (vii) all WSS contracts should include household connections to ensure all the beneficiaries receive WSS services without delay; (viii) resource efficiency should be a fundamental guiding principle in designing and selecting investment projects so that the circular economy is promoted, and rehabilitation and reconstruction are prioritized; (ix) urban and development planning should guide the prioritization of investments for optimal benefits; and (x) gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) targets should be based on verified baselines, with GESI solutions designed to bring actual benefits and visible improvement.

8. **Additional financing modality.** The additional financing modality is suitable for the project as (i) the additional financing project has strong links with the ongoing project in terms of the project design in expanding access to resilient WSS provision, and (ii) the loan implementation consultants will continue supporting the GOR in preparing and implementing the additional financing project, creating efficiency gains in implementation while optimizing resources. To enhance development results, the additional financing will expand the scope of the resilient and heritage-sensitive urban infrastructure component and will pilot-test a special purpose vehicle based on a PPP for a subproject to treat municipal wastewater for industrial use, which will lessen water scarcity and improve resource efficiency.

9. **Alignment with ADB and country priorities.** The overall project is aligned with the state's policy and other policy measures on urban development, urban WSS, urban heritage, and climate change.¹⁴ It is aligned with (i) the government priorities of higher and inclusive growth through an urban transformation in India;¹⁵ (ii) national urban programs promoting urban WSS, stormwater drainage, and rejuvenation of water bodies and developing green space and parks (footnote 6); (iii) ADB's country partnership strategy for India, 2023–2027 emphasizing the promotion of climate resilient green growth and the deepening social inclusiveness (footnote 5); (iv) the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);¹⁶ and (v) ADB's Strategy 2030, particularly operational priority (OP) 4 (making cities more livable), OP 6 (strengthening governance and institutional capacity), OP 2 (accelerating progress in gender equality), OP 3 (tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability), and OP 1 (addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequality). The project has strong adaptation and mitigation components, which align with the goal of the Paris Agreement, India's National Action Plan on Climate Change, and the 2022 Nationally Determined Contribution and contribute to ADB's \$100 billion climate ambition.¹⁷

B. Project Description

10. The overall project is aligned with the following impacts: (i) access to potable, affordable, reliable, equitable, and environmentally sustainable drinking water supply in all urban areas of

¹⁴ GOR. 2018. [Rajasthan: Urban Water Supply Policy](#). Jaipur; GOR. 2016. [State Sewerage and Waste Water Policy](#). Jaipur; GOR. 2017. [Rajasthan Urban Development Policy](#). Jaipur; GOR. 2019. [Action Plan for Reuse of Treated Wastewater in Rajasthan](#). Jaipur; GOR. 2018. [Rajasthan's strategic framework for Inclusive Revitalization of Historic Towns and Cities](#). Jaipur; and GOR. 2022. [Rajasthan State Action Plan on Climate Change](#). Jaipur.

¹⁵ Government of India, National Institution for Transforming India Aayog. 2018. [Strategy for New India@75](#). New Delhi.

¹⁶ Sustainable Development Goals 1: no poverty, 5: gender equality, 6: clean water and sanitation, 10: reduce inequality within and among countries, 11: sustainable cities and communities, 12: responsible consumption and production, and 13: climate action.

¹⁷ Government of India. 2008. [National Action Plan on Climate Change](#); and Government of India. 2022. [India's Updated First Nationally Determined Contribution Under Paris Agreement \(2021–2030\)](#). Jaipur.

Rajasthan improved;¹⁸ (ii) health status of the urban population, especially the poor and underprivileged, improved;¹⁹ and (iii) productivity, livability, and prosperity for citizens in Rajasthan cities and towns enhanced.²⁰ Reflecting on additional measures of the project to enhance climate resilience and heritage-sensitive urban development, impact statement (iii) was added. The overall project will have the following outcome (modified from the ongoing project): quality, reliability, equity, and sustainability of urban assets and services in project towns of Rajasthan improved. The following output will be added as output 3: urban assets to enhance climate resilience and heritage living developed or improved. The other three outputs of the ongoing project will have additional components as detailed in succeeding paragraphs.²¹

11. Output 1: Resilient water supply systems in at least seven project towns developed or improved.²² ULBs that have limited intermittent water supply because of depleting groundwater, severe water leak, or no tapped water supply have been selected. By 2029, (i) all water sources will be switched to surface water and three new water treatment plants will be commissioned with a total capacity of at least 24 million liters per day (mld); (ii) by replacing about 700 kilometers (km) of aging water pipes with severe leaks, at least 1,400 km of water supply pipelines will be commissioned through a district-metered area approach for effective nonrevenue water management; and (iii) at least 77,000 households, including at least 95% of below-poverty-line households in the project areas, will be connected to an improved water supply system with 100% functional water meters allowing for the implementation of volumetric billing.

12. Output 2: Resilient and inclusive sanitation systems in at least eight project towns developed or improved.²³ The ULBs selected have no sanitation services, severe gaps to complete inclusive citywide sanitation, and malfunctioning or outdated sewage treatment plants, and thus do not meet standards for treating effluents. By 2029, (i) at least 580 km of sewers will be constructed and rehabilitated; and (ii) seven sewage treatment plants (STP), with co-treatment of wastewater and fecal sludge and with a total capacity of at least 30 mld, will be commissioned, and one existing STP with 10 mld capacity will be upgraded to meet current effluent standards (all eight STPs will also be equipped with facilities to store treated wastewater for other uses); and (iii) at least 54,000 new household connections to the sewer system, of which at least 95% are for below-poverty-line households, will be installed.

13. Output 3: Urban assets to enhance climate resilience and heritage living in at least 11 project towns developed or improved.²⁴ By 2029, at least 50 km of drainage networks will be constructed in at least five ULBs, including important heritage towns that have no drainage networks and experience frequent and often severe flooding. At least eight heritage towns or towns with strong tourism potential that have difficulty managing natural and built heritage assets will be targeted, with the following components: (i) rehabilitation and/or reconstruction of at least

¹⁸ GOR. 2018. [Rajasthan: Urban Water Supply Policy](#). Jaipur.

¹⁹ GOR. 2016. [State Sewerage and Waste Water Policy](#). Jaipur.

²⁰ GOR. 2017. [Rajasthan Urban Development Policy](#). Jaipur.

²¹ The revised design and monitoring framework is in [Appendix 1](#).

²² The project towns for water supply are Balotra, Bundi, Dungarpur, Nathdwara, Nimbahera, Nokha, and Sagwara. Bundi water supply is complementary to the AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0–financed water supply components, completing citywide water supply provision.

²³ The project towns for sanitation are Balotra, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bundi, Dungarpur, Jodhpur, Nokha, and Sagwara. Jodhpur is an important heritage town, which has aged and deteriorated sewer networks with leaks and blocks, which cause groundwater and soil contamination, and is suspected to contribute to rising groundwater levels. Jodhpur sanitation is parallel financing with the AMRUT scheme. Bundi sanitation is complementary to the AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0–financed sanitation components, completing citywide inclusive sanitation.

²⁴ The towns are Bhawani Mandi, Bharatpur, Bundi, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Mount Abu, Nathdwara, Nawalgarh, Ratangarh, Pushkar, and Sagwara.

eight water parks and water structures that have important heritage value and serve a climate-resilience function but are not properly maintained (nature-based solutions incorporated at these water parks and water structures will enhance climate resilience and also provide pleasant public spaces that both residents and visitors can enjoy);²⁵ and (ii) at least 20 heritage or heritage-like structures rehabilitated or developed to improve the living environment and attract more tourists.²⁶ At all public spaces where heritage assets will be rehabilitated and/or reconstructed under components (i) and (ii), inclusive urban design features—especially for the elderly, women, children, and people with disabilities—and measures to enhance public safety will be incorporated.²⁷ To address the water security issues of Rajasthan’s growing manufacturing industry, a PPP-based special purpose vehicle will be established, which will constitute designated pipe networks to carry treated wastewater from the STPs in Jaipur, Jaitaran, and Nimbahera to nearby industries that require a significant volume of water.

14. Output 4: Institutional and human capacities strengthened for sustainable service delivery, gender equality, and improved public health. The project will provide training to an additional 300 staff and 300 elected council members from the project towns in urban infrastructure and services, including water and sanitation, water conservation, financial sustainability, climate change impacts, GESI, and public health. The project will provide an additional 10 ULBs having WSS components with (i) a monitoring system on contractor performance and service levels, (ii) a WSS O&M manual, and (iii) data platforms with supervisory control and data acquisition, and a geographic information system for efficient O&M and WSS asset management. The project will continue to promote GESI by expanding the internship program for an additional 500 college-aged women and skills training to additional 100 women, including 50 women from scheduled castes, other backward castes, or scheduled tribes. It will also pilot all-women O&M staff at two heritage structures.

C. Value Added by ADB

15. The project addresses complex development challenges and vulnerabilities of project ULBs against climate risks and external shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic through a range of innovative measures. Nature-based solutions such as green and blue measures combined with grey infrastructure will be used to mitigate exacerbated water scarcity, droughts, and flash floods. To support the GOR’s strategic agenda for COVID-19 economic recovery, ADB has provided technical assistance to promote heritage-sensitive urban planning and development, which has contributed to the subproject design of reviving heritage assets.²⁸ Extensive use of universal design standards and enhancement of public safety at all public spaces created or reconstructed under the project will improve livability for all and attract more visitors.²⁹ The piloting of a PPP for industrial use of treated municipal wastewater will improve resource efficiency and water security, as well as deepen private sector engagement and mobilize domestic and private sector finance.

²⁵ Rajasthan is rich in heritage assets, including a large number of *kund*—a man-made pond to hold rainwater—and *baories*—stepwells with a long corridor of steps that people can descend to the water level. These heritage structures are considered ancient climate-resilient measures as they were often strategically connected to each other to drain and retain rainwater.

²⁶ The structures include town gates, *chhatri* (an elevated, dome-shaped pavilion), and *ghat* (a wide set of steps descending to a river, especially a river used for bathing), heritage walks, and parks incorporating local architecture. Heritage-like structures refer to replica of real heritage structures.

²⁷ Examples are sizable ramps and doors, suitable surface materials, and spaces for seamless access for wheelchairs and prams; priority seats and designated parking for people with disabilities and mothers with infants; protector bars and barriers for safety; sufficient lighting; and elevated crossings.

²⁸ ADB. 2021. [Technical Assistance Report: Promoting Smart and Integrated Urban Planning for Livability and Cultural Economy in Rajasthan](#). Manila.

²⁹ ADB. 2022. [Inclusive Cities-Urban Area Guidelines](#). Manila.

The pilot is the outcome of partnership and collaboration among ADB, the GOR, the Government of Australia, and Research Triangle Institute International.³⁰ The project will continue to provide resilient, reliable, and high-quality citywide WSS systems equipped with smart technologies, including provision of household connections, utilizing private sector efficiency and skills through design–build–operate contracts with 10-year O&M periods. The project will expand the scope of institutional training to include sustainable, resilient, and heritage-sensitive urban planning using smart technology, and will enhance measures to improve GESI in Rajasthan.

D. Summary Cost Estimates and Financing Plan

16. The overall project is estimated to cost \$728.3 million (Table 1). Detailed cost estimates by expenditure category and by financier are included in the project administration manual (PAM).³¹

Table 1: Summary Cost Estimates
(\$ million)

Item	Current Amount ^a	Additional Financing ^b	Total
A. Base Cost^c			
1 Resilient water supply systems developed or improved	71.5	58.1	129.6
2. Resilient and inclusive sanitation systems developed or improved	271.4	113.4	384.8
3. Urban assets to enhance climate resilience and heritage living developed or improved		80.7	80.7
4. Institutional and human capacities strengthened for sustainable service delivery, gender equality, and improved public health	13.2	0.0	13.2
Subtotal (A)	356.1	252.2	608.3
B. Contingencies^d	45.3	28.0	73.3
C. Financing Charges During Implementation^e	27.1	19.6	46.7
Total (A+B+C)	428.5	299.8	728.3

^a Refers to the original amount.

^b Includes taxes and duties of \$36.3 million. Such amount does not represent an excessive share of the project cost. The government will finance taxes and duties of \$36.3 million to be financed by cash contribution.

^c In end-2022 prices as of January 2023.

^d Physical and price contingencies, and a provision for exchange rate fluctuation are included.

^e Includes interest and commitment charges. Interest during construction for the Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan has been computed at the 5-year United States dollar secured overnight financing rate fixed-swap rate plus a spread of 0.5%, a surcharge of 0.16%, and a maturity premium of 0.1%. Commitment charges for the ADB loan are 0.15% per year to be charged on the undisbursed loan amount.

Source: ADB estimates.

17. The government has requested a regular loan of \$200 million from ADB's ordinary capital resources to help finance the project. The loan will have a 25-year term, including a grace period of 6 years; an interest rate determined in accordance with ADB's Flexible Loan Product; a commitment charge of 0.15% per year; and such other terms and conditions set forth in the draft loan and project agreements. Based on the straight-line method, the average maturity is 15.25 years, and the maturity premium payable to ADB is 0.10% per year. The summary financing plan is in Table 2. ADB will finance the expenditures of the overall project in relation to (i) civil works,

³⁰ Funded by the Government of Australia's [Water for Women Fund](#), the Research Triangle Institute International has carried out all the upstream works of mapping, screening, identification, industry and ULB consultation, comparative assessment of several business models, and facilitating the sign of letters of intent by industries since January 2021. In January 2023, all four industries and industry clusters signed letters of intent that clearly indicate the volume of water to be purchased. Previously, the GOR failed to reach a similar agreement with a water-demanding industry cluster.

³¹ Project Administration Manual (accessible from the list of linked documents in [Appendix 2](#)).

(ii) consulting services, (iii) initial O&M, (iv) incremental recurrent costs, and (v) contingencies. The GOR will finance (i) taxes and duties; (ii) land acquisition and resettlement costs; (iii) financing charges during implementation; and (iv) part of the civil works, initial O&M, incremental recurrent costs, and contingencies. The GOR has assured that it will meet any financing shortfall to ensure that overall project outputs are fully achieved.

Table 2: Summary Financing Plan

Source	Current ^a		Additional Financing		Total	
	Amount (\$ million)	Share of Total (%)	Amount (\$ million)	Share of Total (%)	Amount (\$ million)	Share of Total (%)
Asian Development Bank						
OCR (regular loan)	300.0	70.0	200.0	66.7	500.0	68.7
Government	128.5	30.0	99.8	33.3	228.3	31.3
Total	428.5	100.0	299.8	100.0	728.3	100.0

OCR = ordinary capital resources.

^a Refers to the original amount.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

18. For the proposed additional financing, climate mitigation is estimated to cost \$58.02 million and climate adaptation is estimated to cost \$95.65 million. ADB will finance \$44.75 million of mitigation costs and \$78.05 million of adaptation costs, while the state government will finance the remaining costs. Key climate adaptation measures will include enhanced nonrevenue water reduction, drainage networks, rainwater harvesting, restoration of water parks and structures, and reuse of treated wastewater. Key mitigation measures include resilient sewer network systems to capture methane gas from sewerage, advanced sewerage treatment technology, energy-efficient pumps, rooftop solar panels at water treatment plants and STPs, and light-emitting diode lighting.³²

E. Implementation Arrangements

19. The executing and implementing agencies will remain unchanged: the GOR acting through Local Self Government Department (LSGD) is the executing agency, and the Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water, Sewerage and Infrastructure Corporation (RUDSICO) is the implementing agency. RUDSICO retains the existing project management unit and two zonal offices in Jaipur and Jodhpur. Seven new project implementation units (PIUs) have been established. Together with the existing PIU in Rantargarh, a total of eight PIUs will manage the project. Four consulting firms engaged in the ongoing project will continue working on the implementation of the project, thus no new consultant recruitment will be undertaken.³³ The project implementation period is estimated from July 2023 to June 2029. The completion date is 30 June 2029, and the loan closing date is 31 December 2029. The GOR requested advance contracting and retroactive financing for works contracts. Retroactive financing will be up to 20% of the ADB loan amount for eligible expenditures incurred no more than 12 months before the signing of the loan agreement. The implementation arrangements are described in detail in the PAM (footnote 31).

³² Details are in the Climate Change Assessment (accessible from the list of linked documents in [Appendix 2](#)).

³³ The firms are (i) a community awareness and public participation consultant, (ii) two contract management and supervision consultants, and (iii) a project management and capacity-building consultant.

III. DUE DILIGENCE

A. Summary Due Diligence Results

20. A summary of the due diligence assessments for the project is presented in Table 3. The full due diligence assessments are accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 2.

Table 3: Summary of Due Diligence Assessments

Area of Assessment	Summary of Assessment
Technical	All selected subprojects meet subproject selection criteria indicated in the PAM (footnote 31) for technical project design, including rationale, relevance, benefits with maximized beneficiary coverage inclusive of the poor, ease of implementation including O&M, and minimal adverse impacts on the environment, social equality, heritage, and climate change. The viability of technical measures and technologies selected among other alternatives are compatible with local conditions and the business models used in the project.
Economic and financial viability	The results of the cost–benefit analysis on sample towns show that the interventions are economically viable, as the estimated EIRRs are in the range of 10.1%–17.4%, indicating significant economic returns. Sensitivity analysis shows that economic returns are robust to potential adverse scenarios, with EIRRs surpassing the 9% threshold under all scenarios. Results of the incremental recurrent cost analysis show that water supply generates adequate revenue to cover O&M expenses, while sanitation covers only partial O&M expenses. The assessment of the financial capacity of sample ULBs shows that some ULBs have sufficient capacity to operate and maintain the assets with the trend of current sources of income and expenses, while others need additional support from the GOR.
Sustainability	The project has a sound institutional setup with sufficiently qualified staff who have experience with the ongoing and previous loans. To ensure financial sustainability, the GOR will develop financial sustainability plans for all project ULBs. The GOR will also have transfers to supplement any shortfalls of O&M costs.
Governance	Financial management (pre-mitigated) risk is <i>moderate</i> mainly because of (i) the implementing agency's adequate financial management capacity, (ii) the ongoing project's <i>on track</i> rating for financial management, and (iii) the <i>satisfactory</i> financial performance of the ongoing project. Procurement risk is <i>medium</i> as the implementing agency has extensive experience; however, one complex proposed contract will pilot a public–private partnership modality to implement a subproject for industrial reuse of treated municipal wastewater. ADB's Anticorruption Policy (1998, as amended to date) was explained to and discussed with the government, the GOR, LSGD, and RUDSICO. ^a
Poverty, social, and gender	The project supports Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, and 13 (footnote 16), and will indirectly help reduce poverty. The <i>effective gender mainstreaming</i> classification remains, with expanded activities for gender equality and women's empowerment to reduce inequalities and poverty. Pro-poor design features will benefit the most vulnerable through provision of water supply and sanitation services to most below-poverty-line households and reduce time spent on water management, especially by women. Improving living environments through design features to ensure inclusive access will benefit all, including vulnerable groups.
Safeguards	The project is classified category B for environment, involuntary resettlement, and indigenous peoples. Sample subproject initial environmental examinations confirm that potential impacts are mostly short term, localized, and can be managed with simple mitigation measures. An updated environmental assessment review framework will guide future subproject preparation and implementation. The resettlement plans and indigenous people's plans for sample subprojects indicate that physical relocation and significant economic impacts are limited to eight households with 64 people. Impacts will mostly be insignificant, involving temporary income loss or crop loss. No land acquisition will be required for the sample subprojects. The resettlement framework and indigenous peoples planning framework prepared for the ongoing loan will be applicable for subprojects under the project. The GOR, LSGD, and RUDSICO have sufficient capacity and commitment to manage safeguards. Stakeholder consultations and disclosure were accomplished during preparation and will continue throughout implementation.

EIRR = economic internal rate of return, GOR = Government of Rajasthan, LSGD = Local Self Government Department, O&M = operation and maintenance, RUDSICO = Rajasthan Drinking Water, Sewerage and Infrastructure Corporation Limited, ULB = urban local body.

^a Specific policy requirements and supplementary measures are described in Project Administration Manual (accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 2).

Source: Asian Development Bank.

B. Summary of Risks and Mitigating Measures

21. Significant risks and mitigating measures are summarized in Table 4 and described in detail in the risk assessment and risk management plan.³⁴

Table 4: Summary of Risks and Mitigation Measures

Risks	Mitigating Measures
Water shortages arising from extreme drought beyond projections undermine the performance of water supply and sanitation facilities.	The project includes measures for water conservation, water recycling and reuse, and climate change adaptation, such as minimizing water losses, monitoring consumption, reusing treated wastewater, and raising public awareness of efficient water use.
Urban local body revenue is inadequate to ensure the financial and operational sustainability of project assets.	The Government of Rajasthan and project urban local bodies have agreed to prepare financial sustainability plans and will implement plans for full recovery of operation and maintenance costs, including by adopting volumetric billing, increasing collection efficiency, and implementing a sustained reduction in nonrevenue water and operating costs. The Government of Rajasthan is committed to providing gap funding where shortfalls exist. Quantitative targets for collection efficiency and operating ratio are loan covenants.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

IV. ASSURANCES

22. The government and the GOR through LSGD have assured ADB that implementation of the project shall conform to all applicable ADB requirements, including those concerning anticorruption measures, safeguards, gender, procurement, consulting services, financial management, and disbursement, as described in detail in the PAM (footnote 31) and loan documents.

23. The government and the GOR through LSGD have agreed with ADB on certain covenants for the project, which are set forth in the draft loan agreement and project agreements.

V. RECOMMENDATION

24. I am satisfied that the proposed loan would comply with the Articles of Agreement of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and recommend that the Board approve the loan of \$200,000,000 to India for the additional financing of the Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project, from ADB's ordinary capital resources, in regular terms, with interest to be determined in accordance with ADB's Flexible Loan Product; for a term of 25 years, including a grace period of 6 years; and such other terms and conditions as are substantially in accordance with those set forth in the draft loan and project agreements presented to the Board.

Masatsugu Asakawa
President

6 June 2023

³⁴ Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (accessible from the list of linked documents in [Appendix 2](#)).

REVISED DESIGN AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The revised design and monitoring framework strikes out content for deletion and underlines content to be added.

<p>Impacts the Project is Aligned with</p> <p>(i) Access to potable, affordable, reliable, equitable, and environmentally sustainable drinking water supply in all urban areas of Rajasthan improved (Rajasthan Urban Water Supply Policy)^a</p> <p>(ii) Health status of the urban population, especially the poor and underprivileged, improved (State Sewerage and Waste Water Policy)^b</p> <p><u>(iii) Productivity, livability, and prosperity for citizens in Rajasthan cities and towns enhanced (Rajasthan Urban Development Policy)^c</u></p>
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Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Quality, reliability, equity, and sustainability of <u>WSS urban assets and services</u> in project towns of Rajasthan improved.</p>	<p>By 2028 <u>2030</u>:</p> <p>a. About 0.57 <u>0.93</u> million people in project towns received 24-hour potable water supply for at least 7 months of the year at a minimum terminal head of 12 meters at consumer end (2019 baseline: 0.6 <u>0.9</u> million residents with water supply ranging from 1.0–1.5 hours in 2 days to 4 hours per day at a terminal head of 0.5–4.0 meters at consumer end) (OP 4.1)^d</p> <p>b. Nonrevenue water in project towns reduced to at least 15% (2019 baseline: 35%–45%)</p> <p>c. About 0.82 <u>1.80</u> million people provided with safely managed sanitation services^e (2019 baseline: Not applicable) (OPs 3.3, 4.1)</p> <p>d. WSS systems in at least 44 <u>24</u> ULBs achieved an operating ratio of less than one^f (2019 baseline: Not applicable) (OP 4.2)</p> <p>e. About <u>1.08</u> million people in at least <u>11</u> ULBs benefited from <u>climate-resilient, safer, cleaner, greener, and heritage-sensitive assets^g</u> (2023 baseline: Not applicable) (OP 3.3)</p>	<p>a.–c. and e. Annual reports of LSGD, RUDSICO, and project ULBs</p> <p>b. Contractor's monthly reports</p> <p>d. Annual financial reports of ULBs</p>	<p>R: Water shortages arising from extreme drought beyond projections undermine performance of water supply and sewerage facilities.</p> <p>R: Agreed financial sustainability reforms discontinued because of changes in political priorities and constrained government fiscal position arising from coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.</p>
<p>Outputs</p>	<p>By 2027 <u>2029</u>:</p>	<p>1a.–d. Quarterly project progress</p>	<p>R: Adverse impact of COVID-19 on</p>

Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
<p>1. <u>Resilient</u> water supply systems in at least eight <u>15</u> project towns <u>developed or improved</u>.</p> <p>2. <u>Resilient and inclusive</u> sanitation systems in at least 26-34 project towns developed or improved.</p>	<p>1a. About 1,350 <u>2,750</u> km of water supply pipelines commissioned through district metering area approach (2019 baseline: 0) (OP 4.1.2)</p> <p>1b. About 400,000 <u>177,000</u> households (including at least 95% of below-poverty-line households in the project areas) connected to new or replaced water supply distribution lines with 100% functional meters (2019 baseline: 0) (OPs 1.3, 4.1, 4.1.2)</p> <p>1c. Three <u>Six</u> new WTPs commissioned with total capacity of at least 28 <u>52</u> mld (2019 baseline: 0 mld) (OP 4.1.2)</p> <p>1d. Two WTPs rehabilitated (2019 baseline: 0)</p> <p>2a. About 1,300 <u>1,880</u> km of sewers constructed (2019 baseline: 0) (OP 4.1.2)</p> <p>2b. 49 <u>26</u> sewage treatment plants with co-treatment and total capacity of about 80 <u>120</u> mld commissioned, and three four existing sewage treatment plants upgraded^h (2019 baseline: 0) (OPs 3.1, 4.1.2)</p> <p>2c. About 403,000 <u>157,000</u> households (including at least 95% of below-poverty-line households in the project areas) connected to sewer system (2019 baseline: 0) (OPs 1.3, 4.1, 4.1.2)</p> <p>2d. 14 fecal sludge treatment plants (total capacity of 164 cubic meters per day) commissioned (2019 baseline: 0) (OPs 3.1, 4.1.2)</p> <p>2e. Agreements for reuse of wastewater signed between ULBs and private parties in at least five <u>seven</u> project areas (2019 baseline: 0) (OP 3.3.2)</p>	<p>reports, and LSGD annual reports</p> <p>2a.–e. Quarterly project progress reports, and LSGD's annual report</p>	<p>supply chains and labor mobilization may delay completion of works.</p>

Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
<p><u>3. Urban assets to enhance climate resilience and heritage living in at least 11 project towns developed or improved.</u></p>	<p><u>3a. At least of 50 km of drainage systems constructed in at least five ULBs (2023 baseline: Not applicable) (OP 4.1.2, 4.3)</u></p> <p><u>3b. At least eight water parks or water structures of significant heritage value and climate resilience function rehabilitated (2023 baseline: Not applicable) (OP 4.1.2, 4.3)</u></p> <p><u>3c. At least 20 heritage or heritage-like structures rehabilitated or developedⁱ (2023 baseline: Not applicable) (OP 4.1.2, 4.3)</u></p> <p><u>3d. At least two urban heritage or heritage-like structures operated and maintained by all-women staff (2023 baseline: Not applicable) (OP. 2.1)</u></p>	<p><u>3a.–d. RUDSICO and LSGD quarterly progress reports</u></p>	
<p>4. Institutional and human capacities strengthened for sustainable service delivery, gender equality, and improved public health.</p>	<p>Capacity development of ULBs:</p> <p>4a. About 500 <u>800</u> staff and 500 <u>800</u> elected representatives of 14 <u>24</u> project ULBs, including at least 80% of eligible women staff and elected women representatives, reported increased knowledge in sustainable and resilient WSS operations, hygiene, and gender equality and social inclusion action plan implementation (2019 baseline: Not applicable) (OPs 6.1, 2.3.1)</p> <p>4b. Supervisory control and data acquisition, hydraulic model, and geographic information system established in 14 <u>24</u> project towns (2019 baseline: Not applicable)</p> <p>4c. Standard operating procedures for operation and maintenance approved by ULBs (2019 baseline: 0)</p> <p>Capacity development of RUDSICO:</p> <p>3d. RUDSICO financial management system certified as compliant by an accredited</p>	<p>4a., 4e. Pre- and post-training tests</p> <p>4b.–c. RUDSICO and LSGD quarterly progress reports</p> <p>3d. Institutional strengthening consultant report</p> <p>4d. Internship exit interviews</p>	

Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
	<p>institution (2019 baseline: Not applicable) (OPs 6.1.4, 6.2.3)</p> <p>Promoting gender equality and community awareness:</p> <p>4d. At least 500 1,000 college-level women completed internship program at RUDSICO and reported increased knowledge of urban development in Rajasthan (2019 baseline: 0) (OP 2.3.1)</p> <p>4e. At least 400 <u>200</u> community women (including 60 <u>100</u> women from scheduled caste, other backward castes, or scheduled tribes) gained livelihood skills relevant to the sector (2019 baseline: 0) (OP 1.3.3)</p>		
<p>Key Activities with Milestones</p> <p>1. Resilient water supply systems in at least eight 15 project towns developed or improved</p> <p>1.1 Award all water supply contracts (December 2020 2024)</p> <p>1.2 Complete all rehabilitation works (December 2022 2028)</p> <p>1.3 Complete construction and commissioning of all water supply facilities (December 2025 June 2029)</p> <p>2. Resilient and inclusive sanitation systems in at least 26 34 project towns developed or improved</p> <p>2.1 Award all wastewater and fecal sludge management contracts (September 2022 December 2024)</p> <p>2.2 Verify and approve designs of all sewerage/fecal sludge management components (December 2022 2025)</p> <p>2.3 Procure all desludging vehicles and equipment (March 2024 June 2027)</p> <p>2.4 Complete construction and commissioning of fecal sludge treatment plant (March 2024 September 2028)</p> <p>2.5 Complete construction and commissioning of all wastewater facilities (December 2025 2028)</p> <p>2.6 Obtain signed agreements for reuse of wastewater signed between ULBs and private parties in at least five project areas (December 2026 June 2029)</p> <p>3. Urban assets to enhance climate resilience and heritage living in at least 11 project towns developed or improved</p> <p>3.1 Award all works contracts (December 2024)</p> <p>3.2 Verify and approve designs of rehabilitation works (December 2026)</p> <p>3.3 Complete construction of all assets to enhance climate resilience and heritage living (June 2029)</p> <p>4. Institutional and human capacities strengthened for sustainable service delivery, gender equality, and improved public health</p> <p>4.1 Mobilize community awareness and participation consultant (September 2020 December 2023)</p> <p>4.2 Recruit the first batches of women for the paid internship program at RUDSICO (March 2022 December 2027)</p> <p>4.3 Annually conduct at least two awareness-raising campaigns on water conservation practices, cost implications for improved services, and safe fecal sludge management practices in each project town, including two sub-activities targeted at women in all project towns (November 2027 June 2029)</p> <p>4.4 Commence Complete capacity-building activities of LSGD, project management unit, project implementation unit, and ULB staff (January 2024 June 2029)</p>			

Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
Project Management Activities Inputs Asian Development Bank: Loan (regular ordinary capital resources loan) \$300.00 million <u>\$500.00 million</u> (\$200.00 million additional) Government: \$128.5 million <u>\$228.3 million</u> (\$99.8 million additional)			

km = kilometer; LSGD = Local Self Government Department; mld = million liters per day; OP = operational priority; RUDSICO = Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water, Sewerage and Infrastructure Corporation Limited; ULB = urban local body; WSS = water supply and sanitation; WTP = water treatment plant.

^a Government of Rajasthan. 2018. *Rajasthan Urban Water Supply Policy*. Jaipur.

^b Government of Rajasthan. 2016. *State Sewerage and Waste Water Policy*. Jaipur.

^c Government of Rajasthan. 2017. *Rajasthan Urban Development Policy*. Jaipur.

^d "Terminal head of 12 meters at consumer end" is considered to be sufficient water pressure for consumers. "Potable" is defined as complying with national drinking water quality standards. Source: Bureau of Indian Standards. 2012. *India Standard – Drinking Water-Specification (2nd Revision)*. Delhi.

^e "Safely managed sanitation" is defined as the use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed in situ or safely transported and treated off-site. Source: World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund. 2017. *Progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene: 2017 update and Sustainable Development Goal baselines*. Geneva.

^f Operating ratio is calculated by dividing operational expenses by total revenues. The project aims to achieve the target by the second year of system operation and sustain it. Baseline is not available for all towns since financial analysis at processing was conducted only for sample subprojects.

^g Safer, cleaner, greener, and heritage-sensitive urban assets refer to urban streets, parks, and public space amenities like public sculpture, sculptural functional street amenities, fountains, city gates, playground elements, and sculptural signage that are safer for walking, sitting, and standing through improved lighting, improved pavement, and removal of barriers like overhanging power cables; and cleaner and greener through improved waste control and planting of trees and flowers. Making cities "heritage sensitive" involves preserving the architecture of the past and incorporating arts and cultural heritage to improve spatial attractiveness.

^h Upgrading is done to meet the 2019 National Effluent Discharge Standards, which also allows effluent to be more suitable for reuse.

ⁱ All public spaces with natural or man-made heritage assets will have design features for universal access and public safety enhancement. Examples are sizable ramps and doors, suitable surface materials, and spaces for seamless access for wheelchairs and prams; priority seats and designated parking for people with disabilities and mothers with infants; protector bars and barriers for safety; sufficient lighting; and elevated crossings.

^j For instance, plumbing, meter reading, and billing.

Contribution to Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities:

The expected values and methodological details for all OP indicators to which this operation will contribute results are detailed in Contribution to Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities (accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 2).

Source: Asian Development Bank.

LIST OF LINKED DOCUMENTS

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/RRPs/?id=42267-034-3>

1. Loan Agreement
2. Project Agreement
3. Approved Report and Recommendation of the President for the original project
4. Sector Assessment (Summary): Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services
5. Project Administration Manual
6. Financial Analysis
7. Economic Analysis
8. Updated Summary Poverty Reduction and Social Strategy
9. Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan
10. Contribution to Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities (Updated)
11. Climate Change Assessment
12. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Action Plan (Additional Financing)
13. Initial Environmental Examination: Conservation and Development of Heritage Sites in Bharatpur Town
14. Initial Environmental Examination: Bundi Water Supply and Wastewater Works
15. Initial Environmental Examination: Jodhpur Storm Water Drainage
16. Initial Environmental Examination: Jodhpur Wastewater Works
17. Initial Environmental Examination: Redevelopment of Five Lakes and a Playground in Sagwara Town
18. Initial Environmental Examination: Sagwara Water Supply and Wastewater Works
19. Initial Environmental Examination: Bharatpur Wastewater Works
20. Environmental Assessment and Review Framework
21. Resettlement and Indigenous Peoples Plan: Sagwara Water Supply and Wastewater Works
22. Resettlement Plan: Bharatpur Wastewater Works
23. Resettlement Plan: Conservation and Development of Heritage Sites at Bharatpur Town
24. Resettlement Plan: Jodhpur Storm Water Drainage
25. Resettlement Plan: Jodhpur Wastewater Works
26. Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement Due Diligence Report: Bundi Water Supply and Wastewater Works
27. Involuntary Resettlement and Indigenous Peoples Due Diligence Report: Redevelopment of Five Lakes Along with Playground and Connectivity of all Lakes of Sagwara Town
28. Resettlement Framework
29. Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework

Supplementary Documents

30. Financial Management Assessment
31. Climate Risk Assessment (Updated)