



Viet Nam: Greater Mekong Subregion Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Project (Additional Financing)

Project Name	Greater Mekong Subregion Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Project (Additional Financing)
Project Number	40253-035
Country	Viet Nam
Project Status	Active
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Grant
Source of Funding / Amount	Grant 0433-VIE: VIE: Greater Mekong Subregion Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Project - Additional Financing Global Environment Facility US\$ 3.79 million
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture and Natural Resources - Agriculture, natural resources and rural development
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming
Description	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	
Impact	Current project: Climate resilient sustainable forest ecosystems in the Central Annamites benefiting local livelihoods and downstream users Overall project "Unchanged"

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Current project Biodiversity conservation corridors established in Quang Nam, Quang Tri, and Thua Thien Hue with enabling policy, regulatory framework and management regimes Overall project Sustainably managed biodiversity conservation landscapes in Quang Nam, Quang Tri, and Thua Thien Hue with enabling policy, regulatory framework and management regimes
Progress Toward Outcome	It is too early to assess.

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	<p>Current Project</p> <p>1. Institutions and communities strengthened in biodiversity corridor management Overall project Institutions and communities strengthened in conservation of the Central Annamite landscape Current Project</p> <p>2. Biodiversity corridors restored, and ecosystem services protected and maintained Overall project Biodiversity conservation landscape managed with ecosystem services protected and maintained Current project</p> <p>3. Livelihoods improved and small-scale infrastructure support provided in target communes Overall project Livelihoods improved, small-scale infrastructure support provided and financial sustainability obtained in target villages with reduced greenhouse gas emissions Current project</p> <p>4. Project management and support services provided Overall project _"Unchanged"_"</p>
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	The project was just effective on 23 February 2016 and is now at the early stage of implementation. No update of the output up to now.
Geographical Location	

Safeguard Categories

Environment	B
Involuntary Resettlement	B
Indigenous Peoples	B

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	The Additional Financing will generate overwhelmingly positive environmental impacts. Biodiversity conservation in the protected areas and their buffer zones is of global significance and the Additional Financing will support conservation of several critically endangered species through the conservation and restoration of habitats essential to their survival. Some of the Additional Financing activities may have a potential for generating localized, manageable negative environmental impacts, including the buffer zone sustainable forestry activities, and the support to livelihoods development and improvement. Identification and design of all of these activities will be finalized during implementation. All Additional Financing activities that will be defined during implementation will be subject to review for environmental impact during the planning stage and further if and as required during detailed design, implementation and operation. The design, location and other characteristics of the project activities will be amended to minimize any negative environmental impact.
Involuntary Resettlement	Among seven sub-components of the Additional Financing, one activity of sub-component 1.1_ establishment of one new protected area (Ngoc Linh) could have minor potential impact as it might trigger restriction of land use or restriction of access to natural resources. However this can be mitigated as livelihoods of ethnic minority people/population in the area are no longer subject to the natural resources on account of the National Program of settled cultivation and resettlement for ethnic minority people.
Indigenous Peoples	The Additional Financing aims at providing incentives, funding, and technical assistance enabling local people to sustainably utilize forest and other natural resources, improve livelihood alternative income opportunities, grow trees of their choice in their homestead plantations and community forests for subsistence needs as well as for fuel wood consumption and construction and use. No negative changes are anticipated in the ethnic minorities' farming and livelihood system or their cultural practice and ancestral domains.

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design	Project stakeholders consist of poor upland farmers, ethnic minorities, and women who are largely dependent on the forest ecosystem. Their participation in project design was ensured by conducting community consultations and focus group discussions to identify appropriate livelihoods, community-infrastructure, and areas for forest management. Interviews with key informants such as village heads, leaders of ethnic minorities, and civil society organizations knowledgeable of the project areas have been conducted to tailor project interventions according to the unique needs of farmers, ethnic minorities, and women. Consultations, focus group discussions, and key informant interviewing have also been used to help minimize negative impacts and identify effective mitigating measure should the impacts be encountered. Results of socio-economic surveys done at the community level with household heads as the respondents were used to shape the project design.
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During Project Implementation

Project activities in the protected areas and buffer zones will be defined through a participatory village planning process to ensure ownership and sustainability. Central to the process is the involvement of the Protected Area Management Boards, households, and vulnerable segments of the community such as the poor, women, and ethnic minorities. Together, they will (i) assess the key environmental, social, and economic threats to the protection of biodiversity in their localities; (ii) discuss the relation between community activity and biodiversity degradation; and (iii) build an understanding of the linkages between biodiversity conservation and the potential for improving individual and community livelihood outcomes. The process culminates into a village conservation plan featuring prioritized project interventions for sustainable forest management and use and livelihood improvement linked to conservation outcomes; outlining responsibilities and commitments of each stakeholder and a framework for monitoring their commitments; and a plan for meeting the technical support and capacity development needs of the community in achieving their targets.

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	khuc, huong thi lan
Responsible ADB Department	Southeast Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Viet Nam Resident Mission
Executing Agencies	<i>Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Department of Water Resources Management 68 Bui Thi Xuan Str., Hai Ba Trung District, Hanoi, Viet Nam</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	21 Oct 2014
Fact Finding	22 Apr 2014 to 04 May 2014
MRM	28 Nov 2014
Approval	24 Jun 2015
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	30 Sep 2016

Grant 0433-VIE

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
24 Jun 2015	04 Sep 2015	23 Feb 2016	30 Sep 2019	-	-

Financing Plan		Grant Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)	Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	4.54	Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB	0.00	24 Jun 2015	0.00	0.74	19%
Counterpart	0.75	Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing	3.79	24 Jun 2015	0.00	0.21	5%

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/40253-035/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=40253-035
Date Generated	06 July 2017

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