



Tonga: Pacific Renewable Energy Investment Facility: Nuku'alofa Network Upgrade Project

Project Name	Pacific Renewable Energy Investment Facility: Nuku'alofa Network Upgrade Project	
Project Number	49450-036	
Country / Economy	Tonga	
Project Status	Approved	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance		
Source of Funding / Amount	Grant 0868-TON: Nuku'alofa Network Upgrade Project under the Pacific Renewable Energy Investment Facility	
	Concessional ordinary capital resources lending	US\$ 7.20 million
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Energy / Electricity transmission and distribution	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming	
Description	The project will convert the distribution network of the Nuku'alofa with climate resilient infrastructure. The project will (i) convert the open overhead network to covered area bundled conductors, (ii) replace overhead consumer connections to underground cables, (iii) convert existing old distribution poles to climate resilient high standard poles, and (iv) replace ageing distribution switchgear. The project will target the Area 5 of the Tonga Power Limited (TPL)'s overall plan of converting all 5 areas of Nuku'alofa network.	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	The Kingdom of Tonga is a small island developing state which is susceptible to natural disasters and climate change impacts due to its geographical location and orientation. The country is therefore exposed to social and economic vulnerability impacting community livelihoods and infrastructure. The project aims to address the vulnerability of electricity network infrastructure and to reconstruct and enhance the infrastructure standards to make them disaster resilience.	
Impact	Electricity supply reliability in Nuku'alofa improved.	
Project Outcome		
Description of Outcome	Technical power losses and climate vulnerability of the electricity network in Nuku'alofa reduced.	
Progress Toward Outcome		
Implementation Progress		
Description of Project Outputs	Nuku'alofa electricity network system improved Project implementation capacity and gender inclusiveness of TPL operations enhanced.	
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)		
Geographical Location	Nuku'alofa	
Safeguard Categories		
Environment	B	
Involuntary Resettlement	C	
Indigenous Peoples	C	
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects		
Environmental Aspects		
Involuntary Resettlement		
Indigenous Peoples		
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation		
During Project Design		
During Project Implementation		
Responsible ADB Officer	Lee, Woo Yul	
Responsible ADB Department	Pacific Department	

Responsible ADB Division	PAEN
Executing Agencies	Ministry of Finance

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	28 Mar 2022 to 13 Apr 2022
MRM	12 Oct 2022
Approval	05 Dec 2022
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	07 Dec 2022

Grant 0868-TON

	Financing Plan		Grant Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)		Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost		7.70	Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB		7.20	-	0.00	0.00	%
Counterpart		0.50	Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing		0.00	-	0.00	0.00	%

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/49450-036/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=49450-036
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