

Public Disclosure Authorized

CRISIS RESILIENT SOCIAL PROTECTION- ADDITIONAL FINANCING (CRISP- P181588)

ADDENDUM TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT

Due to the success of the CRISP program and the improved delivery capabilities of the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), the government has requested further investments in and utilization of the adaptive system through an Additional Financing of USD 250 million. Additional financing is the appropriate instrument given that the government has proposed important system improvements which continue the reforms contemplated under the original CRISP project. The boundaries of the broader Government's program and the program supported through CRISP will be retained with no additional funding to the IPF component. Considering that the proposed AF would be directly tied to the existing activities with no changes in the scope and boundary of the program, an addendum has been prepared for assessing the impacts of the new DLRs.

This Additional Financing will contribute to Result Areas 1 & 3 of the parent project. DLIs proposed under the AF will cover some longer-term policy actions regarding the BISP programs and the NSER while identifying and correcting coverage gaps. Under Result Area 1, the proposed results support; (a) adoption of recertification protocols to ensure predictability in program exit and entry for BISP programs during future recertifications; (b) institutionalization of an indexation mechanism for the base cash transfer program (Kafaalat) benefits to prevent erosion in purchasing power and to protect against the impacts of impending economic reforms; (c) inclusion of all eligible beneficiaries under the current eligibility criteria by identifying and correcting gaps in NSER that have led to any unintended exclusion through the expansion of mobile MELA touchpoints; (d) adoption of NSER as the agreed targeting mechanism nation-wide and development of a technology-supported mechanism to facilitate its use by other programs; (e) measures to correct the current overlap of federal and provincial CCT programs and to prevent future overlap, including gradual takeover by the provinces of Punjab and Sindh of the federal nutrition-focused CCT.

ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The assessment was conducted by the Bank team, based on a review of available data and an analysis of BISP's performance on environmental and social risk management—particularly how it is incorporating recommendations from the initial Environmental and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA), and how it is adhering to the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan for the TA/IPF component of the parent program.

FINDINGS

The parent program is performing 'Satisfactorily' on environmental and social aspects and is adequately staffed. BISP has made commendable efforts in social mobilization and outreach to vulnerable groups (including indigenous people), streamlining various components of the Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM), and developing a gender action plan. There has also been progress on managing the environmental footprint of electronic waste (e-waste) generated by the program, including developing Standard Operating Procedures for the handling of waste, and initiating training programs for staff.

The impacts of the proposed additional DLIs were assessed against the ESSA Core Principles of 1) Informed Environmental and Social Management; 2) Minimizing Adverse Impacts on Natural Habitats; 3) Protecting Public and Worker Safety; 4) Managing Land Acquisition; 5) Equitable Access to Program Benefits for Indigenous and Vulnerable Groups; and 6) Avoiding Social Conflict.

Proposed DLI	Environmental Assessment	Social Assessment
Adopt mechanisms to adjust cash transfer benefits of the Kafaalat program with annual inflation and maintain the overall benefits to xx% of the targeted families' consumption.	Negligible impact	Negligible impact
Complete the first annual adjustment in accordance with the defined mechanism for indexation.	Negligible impact	Negligible impact
Percentage of districts where recertification is completed per the Board approved revised recertification Protocols	Negligible impact	Citizens may be unaware of recertification protocols, leading to an increase in grievances related to exiting from program benefits
Percentage of Union Councils where at least one exclusive mobile MELA touchpoint is functional.	Negligible impact	Citizens may be unaware of touchpoints, and new program staff may not be adequately trained
Develop and test a cloud-based data sharing service that facilitates, software and infrastructure support to programs	Technology upgrades should be in accordance with E-waste SOPs	Negligible impact
At least two programs external to BISP utilize the complete cloud-based data sharing service	Negligible impact	Potential for data misuse in the absence of national data protection laws and systems
An agreement reached in CCI on restricting future expansion of the federal vertical CCT programs	Negligible impact	Negligible impact
Forum agrees on a time-bound costed action plan to remove the provincial level overlaps of Health & Nutrition CCT programs for Punjab and Sindh	Negligible impact	Negligible Impact
No of districts where transition takes place from Nashonuma program to the respective provincial health and nutrition CCT programs of Government of Punjab and Sindh.	Negligible impact	Negligible Impact

This Additional Financing supports activities that are within the scope of the parent project. The parent project's Environmental and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA) is going to remain valid, and its recommendations continue to be extremely relevant.¹ However, the Additional Financing could be used towards further augmenting the concerned BISP departments; towards the following recommendations that were outlined in the ESSA: *1) Strengthening institutional arrangements; 2) Implementing multimodal communications campaigns; and 3) GRM Improvement*

¹ The ESSA of the parent project can be accessed here: <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/462271607441221346/Draft-Environmental-and-Social-Systems-Assessment-ESSA-Pakistan-Crisis-Resilient-Social-Protection-CRISP-P174484.docx>