

**COMBINED PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENTS / INTEGRATED  
SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET (PID/ISDS)**

**Additional Financing**

Report No.: PIDISDSA22624

**Date Prepared/Updated:** 27-Jul-2017

**I. BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

<b>Country:</b>	Bangladesh	<b>Project ID:</b>	P163677
		<b>Parent Project ID (if any):</b>	P132634
<b>Project Name:</b>	Safety Net Systems for the Poorest (Additional Financing) (P163677)		
<b>Parent Project Name:</b>	Bangladesh Safety Net Systems for the Poorest Project (P132634)		
<b>Region:</b>	SOUTH ASIA		
<b>Estimated Appraisal Date:</b>	31-Jul-2017	<b>Estimated Board Date:</b>	29-Sep-2017
<b>Practice Area (Lead):</b>	Social Protection & Labor	<b>Financing Instrument:</b>	Investment Project Financing
<b>Borrower(s)</b>	Economic Relations Division		
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	Department of Disaster Management, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics		
<b>Financing (in USD Million)</b>			
<b>Financing Source</b>			<b>Amount</b>
International Development Association (IDA)			245.00
Financing Gap			0.00
Total Project Cost			245.00
<b>Environmental Category:</b>			
<b>Appraisal Review Decision (from Decision Note):</b>			
<b>Other Decision:</b>			
<b>Is this a Repeater project?</b>	No		

**B. Introduction and Context**

**Country Context**

Bangladesh's economy has achieved rapid growth for decades, and shown impressive poverty reduction. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth has risen from 3.7% (per annum) in the 1980s, 4.7% in the 1990s, 5.6% in the 2000s, to over 6.0% in recent years. Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) adjusted

Gross National Income (GNI) per capita has increased from US\$1,140 to US\$3,330 between 2000 and 2014. Driven by strong economic performance, the percentage of the population living under the national poverty line has declined from 44.2% in 1991 to 13.0% in 2016. During the period of 2000-2010, the poorest two quintiles of the population experienced increases in per capita consumption in real terms, and this growth was slightly higher than that of households in the higher quintiles during the second half of the decade. Concurrently, substantial progress has been made in human development most notably with declines in fertility and child mortality rates, and increases in life expectancy, along with other improved health and education outcomes.

Despite such progress, poverty and vulnerability remains a challenge, requiring a robust social protection system. A large number of people live below and around the poverty line and face various risks – in 2010, 52 million non-poor people consumed less than 1.5 times the value of the poverty line, a reminder that a large number of people remain very vulnerable to shock-induced poverty. Accordingly, the Government of Bangladesh has maintained stable spending on social protection at about 2.0% of its GDP over the last decade. In the most recent budget for FY 2017-18, the government has allocated BDT 542.1 billion, representing an increase of nearly 20% from the previous year, and equivalent to about 2.4% percent of GDP. However a key challenge is that this budget would have to be allocated across about 136 fragmented programs and projects, with a majority being very small – the 11 programs with the largest budget allocations account for almost 74% of the total social protection budget.

Despite the numerous programs in the country, large numbers of poor people remain out of reach of safety net coverage. Estimations from nationally representative household surveys (HIES 2005, 2010) suggest that even though safety net coverage of the poor has improved over time, it nevertheless remains low. In 2010, a third of the poor participated in at least one social assistance program as compared to 21% in 2005. The proportion of safety net recipients who are non-poor increased from 44% to almost 60%. Similarly, the share of total program spending accruing to the poor (i.e. targeting efficiency) dropped from 52.6% to 35.3% within this five-year period. Transfer adequacy (i.e. generosity) on average is also low, and has worsened over the years. The share of real value of transfers of the total consumption levels of poor households has almost halved, falling from 22% to 11%.

### **Sectoral and Institutional Context**

Recognizing the need to strengthen the social protection system in Bangladesh, the World Bank is actively engaged with key ministries in the sector. The Bank's engagement aims at addressing the challenges of program fragmentation, lack of pro-poor targeting, outdated administrative systems, and limited social accountability, which are systemic and cut across all implementing ministries. The Safety Net Systems for the Poorest (SNSP) Project (IDA 5281-BD) has been supporting the Ministry of Disaster Management & Relief (MoDMR) since 2013 to improve the equity, efficiency, and transparency of five of its major safety net programs including public works and food-based/in-kind humanitarian relief. In 2014, the Income Support Program for the Poorest (ISPP) Project (IDA 5553-BD) initiated support to strengthen implementation of safety nets at the local level by working with the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives (MoLGRDC). The Bank is currently supporting the Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW) in preparing the proposed Cash Transfer Modernization (CTM) Project which aims to modernize the service delivery of its major cash transfer programs. Together, these various engagements aim to bring about systemic improvements in the delivery of safety nets. These three ministries' programs represent over 40% percent of the safety net budget in the country, and these initiatives address key sector challenges by helping build common administrative platforms supporting the service delivery chain – beneficiary identification systems for pro-poor resource allocation; administrative systems for information management; and last-mile

delivery systems for services and benefits. Given the political economy of fragmented systems, engagement with multiple ministries is necessary to develop an equitable, efficient and transparent social protection service delivery system.

The Bank's strategic engagement in social protection is aligned with the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS). This Strategy was adopted by the Government of Bangladesh in 2015, recognizing the importance of social protection in reducing the impact of risks for the poorest and most vulnerable. The vision of the NSSS is specifically to build an inclusive social security system that effectively addresses poverty and inequality, while also contributing to broader human development, employment, and economic growth goals. A number of medium-term objectives to be addressed by 2020 include addressing issues of equity, efficiency, and transparency via a set of institutional reforms. For instance, the NSSS has a commitment to mainstream income eligibility criteria in several safety net programs, using tools such as a proxy means test formula (PMTF) estimated and maintained by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Other initiatives to strengthen the service delivery system include establishing a single registry management information system (MIS) and improving government-to-person payment systems. These objectives are being supported by the ongoing SNSP Project, making it a critical investment in supporting the achievement of the Government's goals in the social protection sector.

### **C. Proposed Development Objective(s)**

#### **Original Project Development Objective(s) - Parent**

The Objective of the Project is to improve the equity, efficiency and transparency of major Safety Net Programs to benefit the poorest households.

#### **Proposed Project Development Objective(s) - Additional Financing**

The Objective of the Project is to improve the equity, efficiency and transparency of major Safety Net Programs to benefit the poorest households.

#### **Key Results**

The PDO level indicators are:

- Direct project beneficiaries (number)
  - o Female beneficiaries (percentage; sub-indicator)
- Person-Days of employment generated and financed by cash wage payments under EGPP (number)
- Beneficiaries in bottom expenditure quintile (percentage)
- Program benefits received by beneficiaries in bottom expenditure quintile (percentage)
- Beneficiaries aware of program rules (percentage)

### **D. Project Description**

The parent Project, including the proposed Project (Additional Financing), aims to improve the equity, efficiency and transparency of major safety net programs implemented by the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) under MoDMR. These programs are the Employment Generation Program for the Poorest (EGPP), Work For Money (WFM) (formerly Food For Work (FFW)), Test Relief (TR), Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF), and Gratuitous Relief (GR).

Component 1 (Support to MoDMR Safety Net Programs) uses disbursement-linked indicators (DLIs) to incrementally improve the performance of the abovementioned programs in terms of their equity,

efficiency and transparency. Component 2 (Strengthening of MoDMR Program Administration & Transparency) will support capacity strengthening of DDM with a key focus on the development of a safety net program MIS to enhance monitoring and supervision. Component 3 (Development of the National Household Database (NHD)) will support the development of the country's first universal poverty registry – the NHD – which will generate “poverty scorecards” to support improved targeting of beneficiaries of these safety net programs, as well as safety net programs implemented by other ministries. Components of the proposed Project (Additional Financing) remain the same as those of the parent Project.

The parent Project was approved by the Board on June 26, 2013. A mid-term review in October 2015 assessed that some intermediate results indicators no longer held relevance or required adjustments to align them with the status of implementation and revised implementation plans. Inadequate procurement capacity at DDM and BBS resulted in delays in initiating several activities as per original implementation plans. This resulted in significant delays in the development of the safety net program MIS under Component 2 and the establishment of the NHD under Component 3. Other exogenous factors, including court proceedings deferring the recruitment of field level personnel by the DDM also affected timely achievement of DLI targets under Component 1. Consequently, the parent Project underwent a Level 2 restructuring on June 30, 2016.

The proposed Project (Additional Financing) would support the scale-up of selected activities contributing to the achievement of the “equity”, “efficiency” and “transparency” elements of the PDO; as well as to address costs overruns (including exchange rate losses) primarily relating to the development of the NHD and its associated use. DLIs selected to support the achievement of the PDO cover the use of the MoDMR/DDM safety net program MIS (DLI 4 in the parent Project), which would link to the NHD for beneficiary targeting (DLI 2 in the parent Project) and to the systems for digital payments (DLI 6 in the parent Project).

**Component Name:**

Support to MoDMR Safety Net Programs

**Comments ( optional)**

**Component Name:**

Strengthening of MoDMR Program Administration & Transparency

**Comments ( optional)**

**Component Name:**

Development of the National Household Database

**Comments ( optional)**

**E. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)**

The proposed Project (Additional Financing) will be implemented nationwide in the same manner as the parent Project. Three out of five safety net programs (i.e. EGPP, WFM and TR) to be supported by the proposed Project entail small-scale community level public works.

**F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists**

Nadia Sharmin, Social Safeguards Specialist

Sabah Moyeen, Social Safeguards Specialist

## II. IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation arrangements of the proposed Project (Additional Financing) will remain the same as those of the parent Project.

## III. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01 is triggered to avoid potentially adverse environmental and social impacts and enhance environmental outcomes in the implementation of public works under EGPP, FFW/WFM and TR. Under the parent Project, while compliance with standards in the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) and Social Management Framework (SMF) are adequate, there are issues with the application of the Frameworks, due diligence in reporting (due to enormous number of community level public works), and limited technical skills among Project Implementation Officers (PIOs) and Sub-Assistant Engineers (SAEs) (DDM's field level staff). As a capacity building measure, rigorous training is being conducted to ensure appropriate implementation of the SMF and EMF. Regular spot checks by a third party is being used to monitor compliance. Since the proposed Project (Additional Financing) will support the same public works programs as the parent Project, the Environmental Category will remain "Category B" and the existing EMF and SMF will remain applicable. Annual training and regular third party spot checks would continue under the proposed Project (Additional Financing).
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	No impacts on any natural habitat formed largely by native plant and animal species are expected.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	No impacts on the management, protection, or utilization of natural forests or plantations are expected.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	The proposed Project (Additional Financing) does not finance synthetic chemical pesticides.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	No impact on physical cultural resources are expected.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	Yes	The proposed Project (Additional Financing)

		will be implemented nationwide in the same manner as the parent Project. Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10 is triggered as the safety net programs supported by the proposed Project (Additional Financing) may be implemented in tribal areas or areas where tribal peoples are present, as is the case under the parent Project. A Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) was prepared as part of the SMF for the parent Project and will remain applicable. The TPPF guides the preparation of Tribal Peoples Plans (TPPs) and provides guidance on disclosure processes. This requires particular attention to proper screening and that TPPs are prepared and properly documented. Extensive training to improve safeguards capacity will be conducted on a systematic basis to address these challenges under the proposed Project (Additional Financing).
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	Based on the experience of the previously implemented Employment Generation Program for the Poorest (EGPP) Project (IDA 4833-BD) and the ongoing parent Project, no land acquisition or displacement of communities have been encountered. This is firmly restricted as per the negative list in the SMF, and public works will be screened at the proposal stage to confirm they do not entail any land acquisition or community displacement. However, in cases where voluntary land donation occurs, proper documentation must be maintained in accordance with the SMF.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The proposed Project (Additional Financing) and its parent Project do not finance any dams, nor do any activities depend on any existing dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The proposed Project (Additional Financing) and its parent Project will not cover international waterways which are shared with riparian countries.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The proposed Project (Additional Financing) and its parent Project do not cover any disputed areas.

#### IV. Key Safeguard Policy Issues and Their Management

##### *A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues*

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**1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:**

The proposed Project (Additional Financing) supports the improvement of the equity, efficiency and transparency of five safety net programs, in line with the intervention of the parent Project. No large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts are expected. The public workfare programs supported are EGPP, WFM (formerly FFW) and TR. EGPP entails light earthworks such as construction/maintenance of rural roads, river embankments, cyclone shelters, etc.; excavation/re-excavation of irrigation canals, drains, public ponds, etc.; land-filling for schools, mosques, temples, etc.; organic fertilizer production; among others. Public works under WFM involve more intensive construction/maintenance of rural roads, river embankments and irrigation canals. TR supports cleaning activities and minor repair work to rural roads and public institutions (e.g. schools, mosques, temples, etc.). Bank supervision in program locations in early 2017 noted that public works may be contributing to soil erosion, increased roadside sediment flow into ponds, cutting of constructed road slopes, and inappropriate soil compaction. In addition, there is room for improvement in environmental screening as well as reporting. The identified impacts can be mitigated using existing Environmental Management Plans (EMPs). While no land acquisition has taken place, voluntary donations have not been properly documented in certain locations, and proper screening for tribal people and preparation of TPPs is yet to be perfected. Extensive training to improve safeguards capacity will be conducted on a systematic basis to address these challenges under the proposed Project (Additional Financing).

**2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:**

No indirect and/or long-term impacts are expected as a results of the proposed Project (Additional Financing) or parent Project's intervention if the EMP is implemented properly.

**3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.**

Community level public works will be identified during implementation. Environmental and social screening along with the Environmental Code of Practice (ECoP) will help to in determining appropriate alternative options, if applicable, at the community level planning stage.

**4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.**

An EMF and SMF (as well as TPPF) were prepared under the parent Project and would remain applicable for the proposed Project (Additional Financing). These Frameworks help to identify and assess the potential impact of various community level public works under selected safety net programs, and detail the criteria for environmental and social screening and planning, as well as provide an Environmental Code of Practice (ECoP) to mitigate potential negative environmental impacts. Screening will continue to be an integral part of public works planning to understand possible impacts, ensure they can be addressed, and enhance positive outcomes.

If any public works require additional measures beyond what is already described in the ECoP, simple EMPs will be prepared/updated by the community level Union Parishad Project

Implementation Committees (UP-PIC) and Union Parishad Humanitarian Assistance Implementation Committee (UP-HAIC) in consultation with DDM's field level staff (i.e. PIOs and SAEs). Similarly, Social Management Plans (SMPs) would be prepared/updated in response to triggers raised in the screening process. The PIO will be responsible for reviewing the environmental and social screening processes and mitigation measures as part of regular monitoring activities, and would maintain a database for environmental screening and mitigation measures for specific public works where required. Given the large number of small-scale public works, a third party has been contracted by DDM to regularly monitor compliance with the EMF and SMF and implementation of mitigation measures on a random sampling basis.

Lessons learned from the parent Project suggest that DDM and other stakeholders have limited capacity with environmental and social assessment and risk management. While PIOs and SAEs receive environmental and social safeguards training, their decision making is limited. Safeguards orientation is required for local community representatives – Union Parishad (the lowest administrative unit in the country) chairpersons and members. Considering that each Union Parishad plays a lead role in public works identification and implementation, it is critical to better disseminate the importance of the EMF and SMF, social and environmental screening processes, and works that are not eligible. Under the proposed Project (Additional Financing) the following actions will be taken to improve safeguards compliance:

- (1) Instructions will be issued by DDM, directing PIOs and SAEs to support UP-PICs in completing screening and to retaining these forms, EMPs/SMPs (where applicable), and other supporting documentation in their records. This process and documentation will be made a mandatory prior requirement for approval of community level public works.
- (2) Regular refresher training for PIOs and SAEs will be undertaken to allow them to better inform Union Parishad chairmen and members of their roles and responsibilities with regards to safeguards issues in safety net program implementation.
- (3) An exhaustive list of public works planned in each Union will be provided by UP-PICs at the beginning of each fiscal year. This would allow PIOs and SAEs to complete environmental and social screening, within a reasonable time, of the prospective list before final selections are made. It would also allow the screening process to make meaningful contributions to public works selection.

**5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.**

The EMF and SMF were prepared by MoDMR in consultation with local communities where public works under EGPP, (the then) FFW and TR were implemented. These documents were disclosed on the MoDMR website on April 8, 2013, with hard copies made available at MoDMR and DDM offices. The original EMF and SMF remain applicable for the proposed Project (Additional Financing).

***B. Disclosure Requirements***



<b>Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other</b>	
Date of receipt by the Bank	08-Apr-2013
Date of submission to InfoShop	09-Apr-2013
For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors	
"In country" Disclosure	
Bangladesh	08-Apr-2013
<i>Comments:</i>	
<b>Indigenous Peoples Development Plan/Framework</b>	
Date of receipt by the Bank	08-Apr-2013
Date of submission to InfoShop	09-Apr-2013
"In country" Disclosure	
Bangladesh	08-Apr-2013
<i>Comments:</i>	
<b>If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources policies, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/Audit/or EMP.</b>	
<b>If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why::</b>	

### C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level

<b>OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment</b>						
Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>OP/BP 4.10 - Indigenous Peoples</b>						
Has a separate Indigenous Peoples Plan/Planning Framework (as appropriate) been prepared in consultation with affected Indigenous Peoples?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If the whole project is designed to benefit IP,	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

has the design been reviewed and approved by the Regional Social Development Unit or Practice Manager?						
<b>The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information</b>						
Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>All Safeguard Policies</b>						
Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>

## V. Contact point

### World Bank

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#### VII. Approval

Task Team Leader(s):	Name: Ashiq Aziz, Suleiman Namara	
<i>Approved By:</i>		
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Practice Manager/Manager:	Name: Yoonyoung Cho (PMGR)	Date: 27-Jul-2017
Country Director:	Name: Rajashree S. Paralkar (CD)	Date: 31-Jul-2017