



# Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 15-Sep-2020 | Report No: PIDISDSA28558



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Pakistan	Project ID P173087	Project Name Sindh Resilience Project Additional Financing	Parent Project ID (if any) P155350
Parent Project Name Sindh Resilience Project	Region SOUTH ASIA	Estimated Appraisal Date 16-Sep-2020	Estimated Board Date 22-Oct-2020
Practice Area (Lead) Urban, Resilience and Land	Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Islamic Republic of Pakistan	Implementing Agency Sindh Irrigation Department, Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Sindh

Proposed Development Objective(s) Parent

The objectives of the Project are to mitigate flood and drought risks in selected areas and to strengthen Sindh's capacity to manage natural disasters.

Proposed Development Objective(s) Additional Financing

The objectives of the Project are to mitigate flood and drought risks in selected areas and strengthen Sindh's capacity to manage natural disasters and public health emergencies.

Components

- Strengthening Disaster and Public Health Emergency Management
- Improving Infrastructure and Systems for Resilience
- Contingent Emergency Response

**PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**

**SUMMARY**

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	200.00
<b>Total Financing</b>	200.00
<b>of which IBRD/IDA</b>	200.00
<b>Financing Gap</b>	0.00

**DETAILS**



**World Bank Group Financing**

International Development Association (IDA)	200.00
IDA Credit	200.00

Environmental Assessment Category

A-Full Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

**B. Introduction and Context**

Country Context

**1. Pakistan is at a crossroads as it deals with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.** Periodic macroeconomic crises and a low human capital basis have constrained the country's growth prospects. Over the last two decades, economic growth in Pakistan has averaged 4.4 percent a year, below the South Asian annual average of 6.3 percent<sup>1</sup>. Low investment in human capital, slow progress of structural reforms, low private investment, and slow export growth due to an overvalued currency, among others, have hindered growth prospects<sup>2</sup>. The country was making good progress in stabilizing its economy and implementing much needed structural reforms. However, the COVID-19 pandemic will have significant negative impacts on the economy. The closure of businesses and disruption to the supply chains are significantly affecting the services and manufacturing sectors, which account for nearly 80 percent of total gross domestic product (GDP). The economy is expected to contract in the range of 2.6 and 3.3 percent in FY20, and between 0.2 and 4.0 percent in FY21.

**2. The geographic location and climatic conditions of the Province of Sindh render it vulnerable to various natural disaster events.** These include floods, cyclones, earthquakes, droughts, windstorms, tsunamis and sea intrusion. In addition, the geography, topography, nature of the economy, rapid urbanization and high population levels exacerbate Sindh's vulnerability to natural disasters. Sindh faces one of the most daunting climate challenges in the world. Climate projections indicate an increased frequency and intensity in extreme natural disaster and climate events adversely affecting livelihoods, agriculture, forestry and biodiversity. Sindh is predicted to be the most vulnerable "hotspot" in Pakistan in terms of the impact of temperature and precipitation changes on living standards, with the four most vulnerable districts of Pakistan all lying in Sindh – Hyderabad, Mirpur Khas, Sukkur, and Larkana.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

**3. Sindh includes some of the most drought-prone areas of Pakistan, and has suffered three major droughts from 1999 to 2018.** The drought from 1999-2002, coinciding with the El-Nino event, affected

<sup>1</sup> World Bank estimate

<sup>2</sup> World Bank. 2019. Pakistan at 100: Shaping the Future. Washington, DC: World Bank. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/31335>



1.4 million people, 5.6 million heads of cattle and 12.5 million acres of cropped area, triggering the spread of malnutrition-based diseases in the population and food scarcity in the province due to poor overall crop output. Since 2013, Sindh has witnessed severe and constant drought in the arid areas of Nara, Achhro Thar and Thar, Kohistan and the Kachho region. In 2018, rainfall received in the monsoon season was 69.5 percent below average in Sindh, and eight districts of the province suffered moderate to severe drought conditions. During the drought in Sindh from 2014-2018, more than 1,000 children died and 22,000 were hospitalized with drought-related diseases in the Tharparkar District. Another El Niño emerged in 2015 causing weaker monsoons over parts of Pakistan, including most of Sindh, and a strong heatwave in June-July 2015 which caused more than 1,200 fatalities from heatstroke and dehydration, mostly in Karachi. In 2019, monsoon-related riverine floods and urban flooding in Karachi led to 63 fatalities.

**4. In addition, Sindh is currently managing the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic, as is the rest of the country.** Pakistan experienced a rapid surge in infections, and Sindh has the largest number of confirmed COVID-19 cases among provinces in Pakistan to date. Since the end of June, there has been an overall declining trend in the number of daily infections. The authorities have gradually eased restrictions put in place since April while continuing to enforce highly localized ‘smart lockdowns’ where necessary. The persistence of endemic and epidemic spread of infectious diseases, including poliomyelitis and multi-drug resistant typhoid, underline the vulnerability of Pakistan’s population to intercurrent disease – exacerbated by a combination of concentrated poverty and population mobility. In August 2020, monsoon rains caused widespread flooding in Sindh. The city of Karachi received record rainfall, causing urban floods across the city which led to loss of lives and livelihoods, as well as damage to the city’s infrastructure. The Bank is exploring potential financing options from existing and pipeline engagements to support the Government’s immediate and long-term response to the floods.

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

#### Original PDO

**5.** The objectives of the Project are to mitigate flood and drought risks in selected areas and to strengthen Sindh’s capacity to manage natural disasters.

#### Current PDO

**6.** The objectives of the Project are to mitigate flood and drought risks in selected areas and strengthen Sindh’s capacity to manage natural disasters and public health emergencies.

#### Key Results

- Direct project beneficiaries of floods and drought risk mitigation (gender disaggregated)
- Land area protected from flood and drought risks
- Strengthened capacity to manage natural disaster and public health emergencies

### **D. Project Description**

**7. The proposed AF of SRP includes the following components and sub-components:**

Component 1 – Strengthening Disaster and Public Health Emergency Management (US\$ 70 million):



**8. This component will strengthen the capacity of Sindh to respond to natural disasters and public health emergencies and increase the resilience of public health systems.** It would include:

- Subcomponent 1.1: Strengthening the Resilience of Health Systems
- Subcomponent 1.2: Establishing Sindh Emergency Service
- Subcomponent 1.3: Project Implementation Support and Technical Assistance to PDMA Sindh

Component 2 – Improving Infrastructure and Systems for Resilience (US\$ 130 million)

**9. This component will support construction of small rainwater-fed recharge dams in drought prone regions in Sindh.** In addition, the Component will assist the Sindh Irrigation Department towards implementing project interventions and increasing operational efficiency. It would include:

- Subcomponent 2.1: Construction of Small Recharge Dams to Address Drought and Flash Flooding Risks.
- Subcomponent 2.2: Project Implementation Support and Technical Assistance to Sindh Irrigation Department.

Component 3 – Contingent Emergency Response:

**10.** This component will provide an immediate response to an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, as needed, to support the Government of Sindh in responding to crises and extreme events.

## **E. Implementation**

### **Institutional and Implementation Arrangements**

**11.** The project’s implementation arrangements will remain unchanged with PDMA Sindh and Sindh Irrigation Department carrying out project activities for Components 1 and 2 respectively.

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

The proposed Sindh Resilience Project Additional Financing (SRP-AF) activities will be implemented in various parts of the Sindh Province similar to the parent project (SRP). The anticipated project districts for construction and civil works in AF are same as those for SRP. Selection of sites for additional small dams will be based on the feasibility study which is under progress. These additional dams will be situated in the districts of Dadu, Thatta, Karachi, Jamshoro and Tharparkar. Geography: Sindh is the third largest province of Pakistan in terms of land mass and is bounded by the Thar Desert to the east, the Kirthar Mountains to the west, Punjab province in the north and the Arabian Sea in the south. In the center is a fertile plain around the Indus River. Water Resources: Indus River is the main surface water source of the province. It has three major barrages in Sindh that divert approximately 48 million-acre feet (MAF) (or 59.0 billion cubic meters- BCM) of water annually to the 14 main canal commands in Sindh. More than 80 percent of the irrigated land in Sindh is underlain with brackish water unfit for agriculture. The shortage of irrigation water coupled with drought conditions in Sindh has increased the importance of groundwater exploitation wherever fresh water is available. Fresh groundwater is found mostly in a strip parallel to the left bank of Indus River and some pockets in other areas. Biological Resource: Sindh comprises of diversified ecosystems due to wide range of landscapes, including desert, wetlands, riverine, mangrove forests and coastal areas.



Currently there are 50 protected areas (01 National park, 33 wildlife sanctuaries and 16 Game Reserves), 10 Ramsar sites and 19 Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) in Sindh Province. As many as 11 species of mammals are threatened, while 18 species of birds are threatened in Sindh Province as per IUCN red list. Physical Cultural Resources (PCRs): The Sindh province being the center of old culture and civilization has a number of archaeological sites. A total of 43 such sites exist in the districts of project area. No subproject site will be selected under SRP that is likely to have any adverse impact on known PCRs in the area.

**G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

Babar Naseem Khan, Social Specialist  
 Sana Ahmed, Environmental Specialist

**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	
Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	Yes	
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	Yes	
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	



## KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

### A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

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 environmental risks associated with strengthening of service delivery of ten selected public hospitals may increase health care waste generation from project activities under sub-component 1.1. To mitigate the risk the project will develop safe and sustainable biomedical waste management system including procurement of environment friendly incinerators which are equipped with Air Pollution Control Device (APCD) mostly with wet scrubbers and electrostatic precipitators. This component of the project will strengthen the medical waste management system in public hospitals and well as provision of PPEs and masks along with tracking systems which helps to further reduce the health and safety risks of staff during the time of pandemics. No civil works are planned for this sub-component.

The sub-component 1.2 will operationalize emergency and rescue services at divisional HQs in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur, Shaheed Benazirabad, Mirpurkhas and Larkana. While the operational facilities have already been constructed by GoS at divisional headquarters, except in Karachi, through own resources, this sub-component will support operationalization through training of personnel, provision of emergency and rescue vehicles, command vehicles, personal protective gear and related equipment. Refresher courses and training of teams will also include up-to-date search and rescue certification. The construction activity under this component will only occur in Karachi. The civil works related environmental impacts during construction of activities of the project may include soil and water contamination from improper disposal of wastes, clogging of existing drainage systems, release of hazardous wastes, noise and dust generation, traffic congestion, and safety risks for construction workers as well as nearby residents and communities and health risks due to spread of infection in the current situation of COVID-19. However these impacts are reversible and temporary in nature and likely to occur only during construction works, and have been assessed in the ESMF of the SRP.

The project will support the construction of additional 35 small dams less than 10 m in height in Karachi, Thattha, Dadu and Tharparkar districts. In case of the small dams, in addition to the construction-related impacts described above, the potentially adverse impacts include reduction of surface water flow during the rainy season for lower riparian areas, and possible proliferation of disease-causing vectors such as mosquitoes in the water impoundment areas during the rainy season such as malaria and dengue. The positive impacts include flood control during the rainy season, and the recharge of groundwater and increase in water supply for irrigation, domestic as well as livestock use. The areas where the dams will be built are water scarce regions however in case, some of the dams are planned in close proximity to each other, these are anticipated to have minor cumulative impacts like reduction in downstream flows into the surface water resources due to the reason that rain water that would normally flow into nearby streams will instead be held in these small dams (i.e. trade off of increased recharge to groundwater but reduction in surface water flow). Since, the potential dam sites are not finalized at this stage the exact degree of cumulative impacts will be screened during preparation of site specific ESMPs. It will be proposed in the ESMPs to annually monitor groundwater and stored water levels at each dam site to quantify water balance, losses like seepage, evaporation, inflow/outflow quantification and connection with other streams/water channels during project implementation. Also the location of small dams will be reviewed with respect to proximity and connectivity with other dams to assess the cumulative impact on watershed.

The health and safety risk associated with the ongoing COVID19 situation during project implementation at work



places, and during construction activities also exists for the project.

Since the project proposed AF is mainly scaling up of activities of the parent SRP Project with addition of managing public health emergencies and operationalizing emergency rescue service facilities, the policies triggered for parent project are applicable for the AF and risk category of the project is retained as “A”, same as that of the parent project. OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways is triggered for the parent project as the project involved activities (embankments) on Indus river which is an International waterway. The AF is not financing any activities on Indus river or its tributaries; therefore the policy is not relevant to the proposed AF interventions, but the policy will remain triggered and relevant with the project as a whole.

As per requirement of the WB Policy OP/BP 4.01, the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) exists for the parent project. The parent ESMF includes the guidelines for the AF proposed interventions including small dams construction and construction of building activities for Karachi where the project will support construction of rescue and emergency services building. The Client has also prepared SOPs with respect to the ongoing COVID-19 situation to mitigate the health and safety risk associated with transmission of infection during construction activities and at workplaces. The Bank guidance and of WHO guidelines provided for COVID-19 has been considered while preparing these SOPs. Therefore, existing ESMF of parent project will suffice and no additional safeguard instrument is required for the proposed AF. Site specific ESMPs will be prepared for each intervention as per the guidelines given in the ESMF of the parent project.

Social risks associated with the AF are similar to those in the parent project. The project triggers OP 4.12, Involuntary Resettlement. There are a number of civil works that could potentially include resettlement or temporary relocation of communities. Construction works could also include other impacts on communities and their livelihoods that may require mitigation measures, which are adequately covered in the ESMF of the parent project. Since the exact sites of sub-projects for both additional dams and Sindh Rescue works are undecided, the Resettlement Policy Framework prepared for the parent project would suffice for the AF as well. This Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) was prepared for SRP and has been disclosed by the Government of Sindh as part of the ESMF. The Framework identifies the resettlement approach, procedures for screening sites where resettlement is likely to take place, provide guidance on assessing the loss to communities, guidelines on determining compensation and managing relocation, institutional arrangements and monitoring framework. Two sub-projects under SRP prepared Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP) after rigorous social screening of the site. ARAPs were implemented satisfactorily using design modifications to minimize the originally estimated resettlement.

Same RPF will be used for the AF phase. In addition, SRP was selected for a regional analytical work on Mainstreaming Inclusive Resilience in South Asia (P167456), whereby the objective was to mainstream social inclusion into the disaster and climate risk management investment portfolio of the South Asia Region (SAR). As an output, a report was prepared for Pakistan, showcasing SRP and certain recommendations to improve inclusiveness into the resilience discourse. Amongst others, SRP is currently conducting two consultancies based on the recommendations of the analytical work, results of which will be piloted in the AF of SRP. One of these will be on piloting micro-insurances to build financial resilience of communities at risk, while the second one will focus on improving young women and adolescent girls’ mental health and psycho-social well-being in the most remote, disadvantaged and abandoned locations of the Sindh province.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: Construction of dams at multiple sites, and Emergency Rescue Service Facility in Karachi are not likely to cause any





long term impacts since the environmental and social impacts are temporary and likely to occur only during construction activities. The small dams can however potentially cause some indirect / long term impacts such as changes in cultivation pattern in the area and associated increased usage of agro-chemicals. Increased water availability facilitated by the small dams may also attract local community to start cultivation on currently uncultivated lands. To mitigate these risks, an assessment is underway to assess agricultural practices and water consumption patterns of direct beneficiaries, in order to suggest improvements in cropping patterns and associated irrigation practices. This is to maximize the benefits of the newly constructed dams, so that enough water is available to recharge the groundwater table, without affecting the food security and livelihoods of surrounding communities which are based primarily on agriculture. In addition, risks associated with land acquisition and resettlement will be minor, as in the case of parent project. AF will minimize land acquisitions and/or displacing people while constructing dams and other civil works. Where absolutely necessary, the project will use the RPF to prepare ARAPs as and when required.

Given the above description, no indirect and long term impacts are anticipated in the future.

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

For project alternatives particularly for construction of additional small dams, the Sindh Irrigation Department is carrying out the detailed feasibility study which includes the technical, social and environmental parameters to determine the future project interventions. The Project will utilize the screening criteria under the framework approach, particularly focusing on economic and social impact, to select priority dams to be financed. The experience of implementation of parent project will also help to consider most appropriate project alternatives with respect to technical design, safety measures, environmental and social considerations to maximize the economic advantages of the project.

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.

For the parent project, the Borrower carried out an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) which included an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for sub-projects construction planned for the first year. In addition, the Borrower prepared an ESMF and RPF for sub-projects to be undertaken for the remaining project period. ESMF provides criteria to identify environment and social (E&S) impacts of each sub-project and their components and identify requirement of safeguards instruments (ESMPs / Checklists) to be prepared. The ESMF details responsibilities of entities for implementation and monitoring of the proposed mitigation measures. As a consequence, multiple ESMPs were made using the guidance provided by the ESMF for construction works for 8 river bank embankments and 23 small dams. All safeguards instruments prepared for the sub-projects became part of each respective civil work contracts and was satisfactorily implemented by the Borrower and the contractors. The Borrower maintained qualified environmental and social specialist in the PIU during project implementation. The minor environmental and social compliance issues were rectified as guided by the Bank team and periodic progress reports of the project were submitted to the bank on regular basis.

23 dams are being constructed under SRP, of less than 10 meters of height each. To address the requirements of OP 4.37, dam safety measures designed by qualified engineers remained an integral part of the design of the dams. In addition, the Bank engaged a Dam Safety Expert to review the design of the dams and to ensure that dam safety concerns are adequately and appropriately addressed in these designs. The expert also remained a part of the implementation review, and ensured that all guidance provided is being followed through.

Two ARAPs were prepared for the embankments work, covering rehabilitation of 8 such embankments. The Project



Team successfully minimized the affectees, using design modifications where possible. As per ARAPs prepared, 53 Project Affected People (PAP) were originally anticipated for compensations. However, the Project through design and layout modifications minimized these to 15.

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

The key stakeholders of the project include communities living in the area of influence of the sub-projects. The secondary project stakeholders are same as of parent project, however these would be re-visited if there are any additional stakeholders identified while preparing site specific ESMPs. In the current COVID-19 situation, the Borrower may not be able to conduct physical meetings, focused group discussions and individual interviews with primary stakeholders. Since the project locations are scattered and most of the locations are remote areas, where ICT means are also not available, the Borrower will use the Bank guidance for the consultations and will use the feasible means of consultation as much as possible for primary and secondary stakeholder consultations. In any case, the stakeholder consultation process will be effectively designed for meaningful consultations to be carried out throughout the project implementation and to meet the project needs.

**B. Disclosure Requirements (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)**

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other		
Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors

"In country" Disclosure

Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process	
Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure

"In country" Disclosure

**C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting) (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)**



## **CONTACT POINT**

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#### APPROVAL

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