

Early Warning System

ADB-43414-013

Energy Access Project

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Quick Facts

Countries	Vanuatu
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2016-07-29
Borrower	Government of Vanuatu
Sectors	Energy, Hydropower
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 2.50 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 12.00 million

Project Description

The project will increase energy access and renewable energy generation in the two islands of Espiritu Santo and Malekula, being second and third largest population centers after Efate. The project will assist Vanuatu install hydropower generation to replace diesel generation in Malekula and will extend the distribution grid in both Malekula and Espiritu Santo. Project preparatory technical assistance was used in project preparation.

Outputs
1. Extension of distribution grid by Government.
2. Two hydropower plants put into operation by the Government.
3. Capacity building undertaken for implementing agency and project beneficiaries.
4. The Project Management Unit (PMU) renders efficient project management services

The project will involve small-scale run of river (no dam or reservoir) schemes at Brenwe Hydropower site. The schemes would be connected to existing grid distribution networks. The sites are not in protected areas and have no particular or special value for biodiversity conservation. Impacts will be site-specific and can be readily mitigated.

The project includes one small hydropower subproject at Brenwe River, Malekula. The project does not involve physical displacement, but requires acquisition of land for several components. Resettlement plan (RP) for each subproject is being prepared.

The project includes one small hydropower project at Brenwe, Malekula as well as distribution grid extensions at Malekula and Espiritu Santo. The due diligence (Attachment) undertaken by the social development specialist of the PPTA has concluded that while there are tribes and clans in the subproject areas, (i) their institutions are not separate from mainstream society, and (ii) these groups are not vulnerable. As socio-cultural groups need to be both distinct and vulnerable for triggering the ADB SPS requirements on IPs, the project has been proposed as category C and an IPP will not be required. However, the project will ensure that local communities actively participate and receive culturally appropriate benefits and that issues related to the acquisition of customary land are addressed by the resettlement plans.

Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Grant: Concessional ordinary capital resources / Asian Development Fund US$ 2.50 million
Loan: Strategic Climate Fund - PPCR US$ 7.00 million

Contact Information

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ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF ADB

The Accountability Mechanism is an independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an Asian Development Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Accountability Mechanism, they may investigate to assess whether the Asian Development Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can learn more about the Accountability Mechanism and how to file a complaint at: http://www.adb.org/site/accountability-mechanism/main

Bank Documents

- Energy Access Project - Brenwe Hydropower Plant Subproject: Resettlement Plan [Original Source]
- Energy Access Project - Brenwe River Hydropower Project: Initial Environmental Examination [Original Source]
- Energy Access Project: Initial Environmental Examination [Original Source]
- Project Disclosure PDF