

 Early Warning System

ADB-56334-002

Preparing West Bengal Floating Solar Project



Quick Facts

Countries	India
Specific Location	Bakreshwar, West Bengal
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2024-08-16
Borrower	Government of India
Sectors	Energy, Technical Cooperation
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 1.06 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 1.06 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 1.58 million



Project Description

As stated by the ADB, the GOWB has requested a project readiness financing (PRF) for the preparation of a floating solar power plant on the Bakreshwar dam reservoir. Although West Bengal has experience in solar PV development, this project will be the first of its kind and magnitude floating on a reservoir. The project will support the state in reaching their RPO targets and decarbonize the power sector. The scope of the PRF will specifically focus on environmental and social safeguards related to projects impacting water bodies. The Department of Power, Government of West Bengal will be the executing agency and West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (WBPDCCL) will be the implementing agency. The PRF will support WBPDCCL to prepare the floating solar project and improve procurement readiness and compliance with ADB's safeguard policies for the ensuing project.

The PRF and the ensuing floating solar project are aligned with the country partnership strategy for India, 2023-2027 by catalyzing climate resilient green growth and supporting the country's plans for its energy transition. It is in ADB's indicative country pipeline and monitoring (ICPM) and expected to be approved in 2024/2025.

Output 1: Due Diligence, technical studies and safeguard assessments completed. Output 1 will be achieved by (i) undertaking necessary environmental and social surveys, studies and assessments, as per ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and ADB's Social Protection Strategy (2001), (ii) conducting due diligence to cover the technical, economic, financial and climate change and disaster risk aspects of the ensuing project, (iii) complete detailed engineering, and (vi) undertaking a strategic procurement planning study and a project procurement risk assessment to identify contract packaging, contract modalities, procurement plans and bid documents, and supporting the bidding process.

Output 2: Institutional Capacity improved. Output 2 will be delivered by (i) capacity training activities for the employees of the implementing agency in the field of floating solar technology, design and project preparation of floating solar projects, and environmental and social safeguards. The training will be delivered in form workshops and classroom training.

En ensuing project. The project developed under the PRF will be the innovative floating solar power plant project, constructed on the Bakreshwar dam reservoir in West Bengal. The final installed capacity of the powerplant will be subject to the outcome of the detail studies produced under the PRF and through WBPDCCL. The project has an indicative ADB financing amount of \$193 million and is scheduled for approval in 2024/2025.



Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

As stated by the ADB, the project is estimated to cost \$1.58 million. The government has requested a regular loan of \$1.06 million from ADB's ordinary capital resources to help finance project preparation and design activities. The State of West Bengal will finance the equivalent of \$0.52 million for taxes and duties, technical studies, PMU cost, and interest during implementation.



Private Actors Description

As stated on the company's website, the West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (WBPDC) is a company wholly owned by the Government of West Bengal with the goal to carry on inter alia the business of electric power generation and supply in the state of West Bengal, India. The thermal power plants under WBPDC are in Kolaghat, Bakreswar, Sagardighi, Santaldih and Bandel.



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Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (WBPDCCL)	Contractor	Energy



Contact Information

ADB Team Leaders:

Mr. Samrat Ray - Senior Project Officer (Energy), India Resident Mission

Phone: +91-7702520404

Email: sray@adb.org

Christoph Meindl - Energy Specialist

Phone: +63-286325498

Email: cmeindl@adb.org

Executing Agency - Department of Power, Government of West Bengal:

Mr. Santanu Basu - Secretary

Phone: +91-33-2335-1269

Email: powersecy@wb.gov.in

Address: Bidyut Unnayan Bhavan, 3/C, LA Block, 5th Floor, Sector-III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata- 700 106

Implementing Agency - West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited:

Mr. Asit Kumar Mukherjee - Director (Projects)

Phone: +91-75-960-56390

Email: akmukherjee@wbpdcl.co.in

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit an information request for project information at: <https://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form>

ADB has a two-stage appeals process for requesters who believe that ADB has denied their request for information in violation of its Access to Information Policy. You can learn more about filing an appeal at: <https://www.adb.org/site/disclosure/appeals>

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

- [Preparing West Bengal Floating Solar Project: Project Administration Manual](#)
- [Preparing West Bengal Floating Solar Project: Project Readiness Financing Report](#)