Early Warning System

WB-P506825

Accelerate Bhutan’s Job Transformation through Renewable Natural Resource Value Chains

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Quick Facts

Countries	Bhutan
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2025-04-25
Borrower	Government of Bhutan - Ministry of Finance
Sectors	Industry and Trade
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 30.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 30.00 million

Project Description

According to the Bank’s website, the Project Development Objective is to increase value addition and employment in selected RNR value chains in Bhutan.

The project will strategically focus on scaling up proven solutions in a selected number of existing value chains (component 1) and create space across subsectors to build the foundations for accelerated VCD for commodities with emerging market opportunities (component 2).

Early Warning System Project Analysis

Environmental Risk Rating is Moderate. From the environmental perspective, the major potential risk and concern is to ensure the sustainable harvest of living natural resources, including NTFPs. Although the project doesn’t have a plan for any major civil construction, however, small and medium-sized infrastructure for the value chain is proposed for aggregation, cooling, processing, and value-addition services at strategic locations. The project's main anticipated environmental risks and impacts are likely to relate to managing the sustainable harvest of NTFP, community and occupational health and safety (OHS), noise, vibration, dust pollution, and waste generation and management from the small-scale constructions. The enhanced use of pesticides can be a concern, and the use of bio-pesticides and integrated pest management would be practiced.

Social Risk Rating is Low. The project will include capacity development of producers and linking buyers with producers, and facilitating access to marketing. Hence the need for labor and associated risks are (SEA/SH, labor influx, unscrupulous labor practices, etc.) not likely to occur. The community health and safety issues are also not likely to be negatively impacted. There will be no land acquisition and involuntary resettlement in the project. Impact on indigenous people and cultural heritages are also not likely. The social risk may emanate from excluding stakeholders and potential beneficiaries (especially the vulnerable and the disadvantaged, people living under poverty and in remote areas) from consultation and project benefits.

Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

IDA Shorter Maturity Loan (SML): US$ 30.00 million

Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-to-information/request-submission

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing ipanel@worldbank.org. Information on how to file a complaint and a complaint request form are available at: https://www.inspectionpanel.org/how-to-file-complaint

Bank Documents

- Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) - Accelerate Bhutan’s Job Transformation thro
- Concept Project Information Document (PID) (English)