

**INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
CONCEPT STAGE**

Report No.: **30252**

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: April 26, 2004

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country: Pakistan	Project ID: P084302
Project Name: Sindh Water Sector Improvement Project	Task Team Leader: Manuel Contijoch
Estimated Appraisal Date: August 16, 2004	Estimated Board Date: December 16, 2004
Managing Unit: SASAR	Lending Instrument: Adaptable Program Loan
Sector: Irrigation and drainage (100%)	Theme: Rural services and infrastructure (P)
Safeguard Policies Specialists in the task team:	
Loan/Credit amount (\$m.): IDA: 140	
Other financing amounts by source: (\$m)	

B. Project Objectives [from section 3 of PCN]

The overall development objective is to improve water productivity through the pursuit of a reform agenda and required investments leading to a better management system that links the canal command areas, the distributary and the watercourse level. The project interventions would: (a) define and implement an enforceable water rights system among users in the selected canal command areas; (b) devolve responsibility for water management including O&M to WUAs and FOs (c) improve the reliability, efficiency and equity of water distribution, among the agricultural users, (c) modernize the existing irrigation and drainage networks, and the on-farm technology to improve water service delivery and use and (d) strengthen the institutional capacity of the irrigation institutions in Sindh according to the existing Water Ordinance.

C. Project Description [from section 4 of PCN]

The Project aims at consolidating the institutional reform process initiated under NDP and expand its scope to an additional number of canal command areas. This will include a mix of institutional and infrastructure interventions. Progress on the institutional reform agenda and on the irrigation devolution strategy will be subject to political commitment and is likely to be a long term process. It is recommended that the project be designed as an APL. The triggers in the process will allow, once the conditions are met, to introduce the reform process and Bank

support to other canal commands and expand horizontally the scope of the program to the whole Province. The basic elements that will trigger expansion are: a) transfer of the water allocation responsibilities at the barrage and canal level to SIDA; b) notify and commission the canal commands to AWBs; c) devolution to WUA/FO operations and maintenance of the distributary and minor canal level, d) identification of infrastructure improvement needs. Through an APL the pace at which the program would unfold would be subject and adjusted to the prevailing political and economical conditions in the Province. The APL allows for more flexibility than the present NDP strategy given that additional Bank support would only be triggered after evidence that the preconditions for success are in place.

Over the medium term, the program will support the development of SIDA into a Provincial Water Management Organization capable of managing the water resources in a sustainable way with equity and with technical and financial capabilities. This will be achieved at the end of the process through the operation of 3 main barrages, establishment and operation of 14 AWB to deliver water by volume to around 1,500 FOs, and organization of a better system of water charges collection. At the same time the dialogue will be pursued with the Irrigation Department so as to support its transformation into a Provincial Water Authority institution with responsibility for administration and oversight of inter-provincial water rights, regulatory and enforcement issues.

In order to reach this stage of maturity the APL will be organized in three phases, the first one has interventions in one barrages and 5 Canal Commands; the second could include a second barrage and five additional canal commands areas, and finally the third phase could include the last barrage and the remaining perimeter of four canal commands. During project preparation the phases will be defined with more precision and in consultation with the stakeholders. The social, environmental and institutional triggers will also be clarified.

The first phase of this long term process under the present APL I project will cover the five canal commands already transferred to SIDA under NDP. It will require the transfer to SIDA of the Gudu barrage that regulates the water flow of the targeted command areas and further support the modernization¹ and rehabilitation of the distribution infrastructure together with the institutional strengthening of AWBs, FOs and WUAs.

The following components are envisaged in the proposed project.

- ③ Capacity building. Supporting SIDA to develop the local capacity for integrated planning and water management in the Province. Establishment of Water Rights and allocation of water in Sindh. Transforming the present system of water distribution to a volumetric delivery according with the water entitlements and water allocation rules. The process will include the conjunctive use of surface and underground water in line with the needs of the different users and the quality of water available. This component will also support the existing capacity for social mobilization, formation of AWBs, FOs and women

¹ Modernization is a process of improvement of the irrigation and drainage infrastructure according to the new demands of stakeholders for a more reliable, timely and efficient water service delivery, it includes interventions in the physical and also in the managerial components of the service. Includes the use of benchmarking indicators and techniques to evaluate the performance of the systems and compare it with other similar ones at the national and international level.

groups. The project will address the need to regulate the “direct outlets” that in some cases (like in the Nara Canal) represent 30% of the volume of water diverted to the farms.

- ③ Civil Works. This component will support the modernization and improvement of the irrigation and drainage network, construction of metering devices, communication, water distribution structures and fund for the maintenance works required for the sustainability of the system specially drainage. When needed and justified the project will introduce the modernization and improvement of the irrigation and drainage infrastructure in relation with agriculture diversification projects
- ③ Agriculture and irrigation technology. The project will promote delivery of water to the WUAs according to water delivery contracts and support the necessary infrastructure improvements to achieve a more timely and reliable water distribution. In this way the project will foster the introduction of modern irrigation practices and the installation of pressurized irrigation systems which will represent a major technological innovation for Pakistan agriculture. The project will also pursue coordination with the Sindh OFWMP project in the execution of the investments at the off-farm and on-farm level to establish the required articulation with agriculture productivity objectives.
- ③ Management and administration. The project will support the transition towards a more efficient system of water and irrigation management including the professionalization of service delivery through SIDA, the devolution of operations and maintenance to AWBs, FOs and WUAs, and the revision of the role of the Irrigation Department.

D. Project location (if known)

[Guideline: If the location is not yet identified, please indicate if there are alternative locations under consideration or how the location is to be determined during project preparation]

E. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies [from PCN]

[Guideline: Based on past experience and other available information]

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Applicable?	Safeguard Policy If Applicable, How Might It Apply?
[]	<u>Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01)</u>
[]	<u>Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)</u>
[]	<u>Pest Management (OP 4.09)</u>
[]	<u>Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)</u>
[]	<u>Indigenous Peoples (OD 4.20)</u>

<input type="checkbox"/>	Forests (OP/BP 4.36)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Property (draft OP 4.11 - OPN 11.03)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Projects in Disputed Areas (OP/BP/GP 7.60)*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Projects on International Waterways (OP/BP/GP 7.50)

Environmental Assessment Category:

A B C FI TBD (to be determined)

If TBD, explain determinants of classification and give steps that will be taken to determine that EA category (mandatory):

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

- A. Target date for the Quality Enhancement Review (QER), at which time the PAD-stage ISDS would be prepared.
- B. For simple projects that will not require a QER, the target date for preparing the PAD-stage ISDS
- C. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing² should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS.

IV. APPROVALS

<i>Signed and submitted by:</i>		
Task Team Leader:	Manuel Contijoch	Date
<i>Approved by:</i>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Name	Date
Comments		
Sector Manager:	Name	Date
Comments		

* By supporting the proposed project, the Bank does not intend to prejudice the final determination of the parties' claims on the disputed areas

² Reminder: The Bank's Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in-country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.

