

**PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT (PID)  
CONCEPT STAGE**

Report No.: AB5321

<b>Project Name</b>	Padma Multipurpose Bridge
<b>Region</b>	SOUTH ASIA
<b>Sector</b>	Roads and highways (90%); Flood protection (10%)
<b>Project ID</b>	P111017
<b>Borrower(s)</b>	BANGLADESH
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA) Bridges Division, Ministry of Communications Setu Bhaban, New Airport Road, Banani Dhaka Bangladesh 1212 Fax: (880-2) 988-8414 <a href="mailto:info@bba.gov.bd">info@bba.gov.bd</a>
<b>Environment Category</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI <input type="checkbox"/> TBD (to be determined)
<b>Date PID Prepared</b>	December 20, 2009
<b>Estimated Date of Appraisal Authorization</b>	December 13, 2010
<b>Estimated Date of Board Approval</b>	February 28, 2011

**1. Key development issues and rationale for Bank involvement**

Bangladesh is divided into four major regions by the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers. Currently, the Padma River isolates the South West Region (SWR) of Bangladesh from other parts of the country. There have been substantial improvements and development in the road network in Bangladesh, yet this zone remains beyond the advantages of an integrated road network due to the lack of a bridge over the Padma River. The proposed Padma Multipurpose Bridge Project (PMBP) is an important large scale infrastructure project that will significantly benefit various sectors of the economy in Bangladesh. This proposed bridge will provide direct links between two major seaports of the country and will be an integral part of the Asian Highway No 1 and Trans-Asian railway network systems. The Project is expected to boost the GDP of the SWR and the country and generate substantial employment opportunities.

The construction of the bridge over the Padma River is a top priority development agenda for the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) that will benefit the southwest region and, more importantly, the country as a whole. In addition, the GOB not only regards the Bank as a primary source of financing but also as a source of technical knowledge, professional and policy advice, and expertise in the sector. The Bank has a long history of partnership and collaboration with Bangladesh in the water and transport sectors and is seen as a trusted partner and a coordinator for international financial institutions and other development partners. It has provided previous support to several main interventions including the financing of the Jamuna Bridge. The Bank therefore is well placed to assist the country with this Project to support sustained growth in line with the CAS objectives, in particular pillars 1 and 2, related to the increased resilience to disaster risk reduction/climate change and the promotion of an enabling environment for private sector development respectively. Given the governance environment in the

country, the Bank also has a comparative advantage in ensuring that these resources will be utilized effectively for the country.

## 2. Proposed objective(s)

The overall project development objective is to support economic growth and poverty reduction through improved regional connectivity. This would be achieved by the construction of a 6-km four-lane multi-purpose bridge over the Padma River.

## 3. Preliminary description

The project is likely to consist of the following components:

### ***Component A: Main Bridge***

This component will include the construction of the foundation and substructure, the superstructure and services, road viaducts and approach roads, and various bridge end facilities.

### ***Component B: River Training Works***

To ensure that the river continues to flow under the bridge and control erosion near the main structures, a variety of river training works would be undertaken.

### ***Component C: Resettlement***

This component will focus on the proper resettlement associated with the main bridge, river training works, and support to the overall resettlement action plan.

### ***Component D: Supervision consultancies***

This component provides for consultancies for construction supervision and project management support, and monitoring and evaluation and supervision of the environmental management plan and social development assistance programs.

### ***Component E: Project Management, TA, and Strategic Studies***

This component includes overall project management support, capacity building of the BBA, technical assistance, panel of experts, training, and various identified strategic studies.

## 4. Safeguard policies that might apply

EA Categorization for this project is A. A substantial amount of work has been done on environmental, social resettlement issues for this proposed Project. Since 2000, BBA and other development partners (JICA and ADB) have conducted several feasibility and environmental assessments of the proposed Padma Bridge project including an analysis of alternatives to the proposed location. The design consultants are also carrying out an environmental assessment. According to the World Bank requirements the final EA and EMP preparation would be carried out by the BBA using an independent consultant.

The Bank has accepted that three RAPs would be prepared for the project (i) RAP I for land to be acquired on which people from the project would be resettled, (ii) RAP II for the main bridge and facilities, (iii) and RAP III for the river training works. Moreover, a Social Development Action Program (SDAP) would be designed based on several forthcoming studies. The compensation and resettlement of the Project Affected People (PAPs) will follow the Bank's resettlement policy. The project will also address the weak institutional capacity of BBA to implement the RAP. The Project Team will work closely with the BBA to ensure that they have the necessary staff and resources to implement the RAP and RPF.

## 5. Tentative financing

Source:	(\$m.)
BORROWER/RECIPIENT	250
International Development Association (IDA)	460
Asian Development Bank	300
JAPAN: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)	300
Islamic Development Bank	130
Total	1440

## 6. Contact point

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