



Northern Areas Reduction-of-Poverty Initiative Project -- Women's Economic Empowerment Project (P114841)

SOUTH ASIA | Bangladesh | Social Development Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Specific Investment Loan | FY 2012 | Seq No: 6 | ARCHIVED on 02-Jan-2015 | ISR17794 |

Implementing Agencies:

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Board Approval date:27-Oct-2011

Effectiveness Date:25-Mar-2012

Planned Mid Term Review Date:15-Jul-2014

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:15-Jun-2014

Original Closing Date:31-Dec-2015

Revised Closing Date:31-Oct-2017

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The development objective of the project is to facilitate access to employment opportunities in the garment sector for poor and vulnerable women from lagging areas of Bangladesh by providing information, technical and life skills training, transitional housing, and other support to adjust to urban life and formal sector employment.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components

Name

Component 1: Raising awareness and selecting candidates in the lagging region of northern Bangladesh.:(Cost \$0.92 M)

Component 2: Establishing training centers with dormitories in the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) located in Dhaka, Ishwardi, and Kamaphuli.:(Cost \$32.53 M)

Component 3: Providing initial training and on-going support to beneficiaries.:(Cost \$2.04 M)

Component 4: Supporting coordination, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and expansion.:(Cost \$4.30 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Moderately Satisfactory	● Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Moderately Satisfactory	● Moderately Unsatisfactory



Overall Risk Rating

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● Substantial

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The MTR mission, BEPZA, and MOLE agreed that the first step on the critical path is for the Bank team to process a Level 2 restructuring paper to remove the inconsistency between the PAD and the FA regarding the eligibility of DTC operating costs for IDA financing and the progressive assumption of same by BEPZA. This restructuring paper is being written alongside the DPP revisions to ensure synchronization. It is expected that the two parallel processes will be completed by the first week of January 2015. The revised DPP estimates have been completed and show that no additional funds will be required at this stage; only re-allocation of funds will be needed between existing components. Hence the DPP may be cleared within the Ministry, and on the Bank's side a simple level 2 restructuring may be processed.

The MTR also undertook a rigorous assessment of the cost allocations in the DPP, taking account of both cost increases and cost savings. It has been agreed that stipends will be treated separately (as \$10) and de-linked from other operating costs such as food security, utilities, cleaning and maintenance. IDA is undertaking funding for food, cleaning and security on a declining basis. The increased price of machinery, furniture will add to costs. However, significant savings in construction costs (especially supervision consultant) and exclusion of Uttara DTC costs will more than make up for the escalation. Consequently, the DPP revision can be completed within the existing financial envelope and approved at the Ministerial level. The RDPP revision is already underway; cost re-allocations have been agreed jointly by MOLE, BEPZA and the Bank during MTR based on the findings summarized below.

Overall cost-savings amount to \$6.44 million based on: deferring Uttara DTC costs at this stage (approximately \$4.13 million); cost savings realized on physical construction contracts for the DTCs at DEPZ, IEPZ and KEPZ (approximately \$1.83 million); and savings on the supervision of construction package (\$0.48 million). Extra funding requirements are for: *food, security, cleaning, maintenance and utilities*: The total extra funding requirement from IDA (on a declining basis) for will be approximately \$4.09 million for three years. The CSR/ Workers Welfare Fund will bear \$2.00 million in totality (including the \$1.15 million for food) starting from year 2 of operations (2016-2017). On balance, the project will still show a saving of \$2.35 million from the IDA portion which will be allocated for various contingencies (related to the cost of food, maintenance, machinery, training provision, and possibly medical services) and capacity building activities.

During the MTR mission it was agreed that the Uttara DTC as may be considered under Additional Financing after the first three DTCs have been under operation for a year, subject to good performance and Bank management review and decision. However, consequently BEPZA and MOLE have both shown reluctance on this front as mentioned in the above section. MOLE has expressed interest in adding additional activities to the AF: three sites on MOLE owned property; expansion of source areas for beneficiaries; and diversification of training to include the leather sector. These additional activities would require studies, expansion of the IEC, training module development, specialized trainers, training machinery and equipment, etc.



Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	--	--	● Moderate
Macroeconomic	--	--	● Low
Sector Strategies and Policies	--	--	● Low
Technical Design of Project or Program	--	--	● Substantial
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	--	--	● High
Fiduciary	--	--	● Low
Environment and Social	--	--	● Low
Stakeholders	--	--	● Moderate
Other	--	--	--
Overall	--	--	● Substantial

Results

Project Development Objective Indicators

► Number of women who receive training (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	10800.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Oct-2017

► Percentage of graduates who are formally employed for at least 10 months of the year following completion of their training. (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Oct-2017



► Difference in average level of net monthly income of graduates, before and 1 year after completion of their training (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Oct-2017

► Level of satisfaction with the project among graduates (% who rank their satisfaction level as three or higher on a five point scale) (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Oct-2017

Overall Comments

The beneficiaries are expected to be inducted into the centers by February 2015. Results from the baseline and first batch of trainings will be available by June 2015.

Intermediate Results Indicators

► Raising awareness and selecting training program candidates from the lagging region of northern Bangladesh. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	--	--	--	--
Date	--	--	--	--



▲ Number of eligible applicants who apply for the training program (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	10800.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Oct-2017

▲ Percentage of beneficiaries who complete the three-month training offered by the program. (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.00
Date	--	--	--	--

▶ Establishing training centers with dormitories in the EPZs located in Dhaka, Ishwardi, and Karnaphuli. (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Oct-2017

▲ Percentage of graduates who stay in the project accommodation after completion of their training (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Aug-2015



▲ Percentage of project beneficiaries who are satisfied with the services offered by the facilities (% who rank their satisfaction as three or higher on a five point scale) (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	--	80.00
Date	--	--	--	31-Oct-2017

▲ Percentage of graduates who opt to pay for the meal service provided by the project facilities (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	31-Oct-2017

▶ Providing initial training and on-going support to beneficiaries. (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	--	--	--	--
Date	--	--	--	--

▲ Percentage of project graduates who are offered formal employment within one month of graduation (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	30-Jun-2015



▲ Percentage of graduates who are satisfied with the training program (% who rank their satisfaction as three or higher on a five point scale) (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	30-Jun-2015

▲ Percentage of graduates who are employed at the senior operator level 18 months after graduating (i.e., they get promoted) (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)


	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	--	80.00
Date	26-Mar-2012	--	--	29-Dec-2017

Overall Comments

The beneficiaries will be inducted into the centers by February 2015. Results from the first batch of trainings will be available by June 2015.

Data on Financial Performance

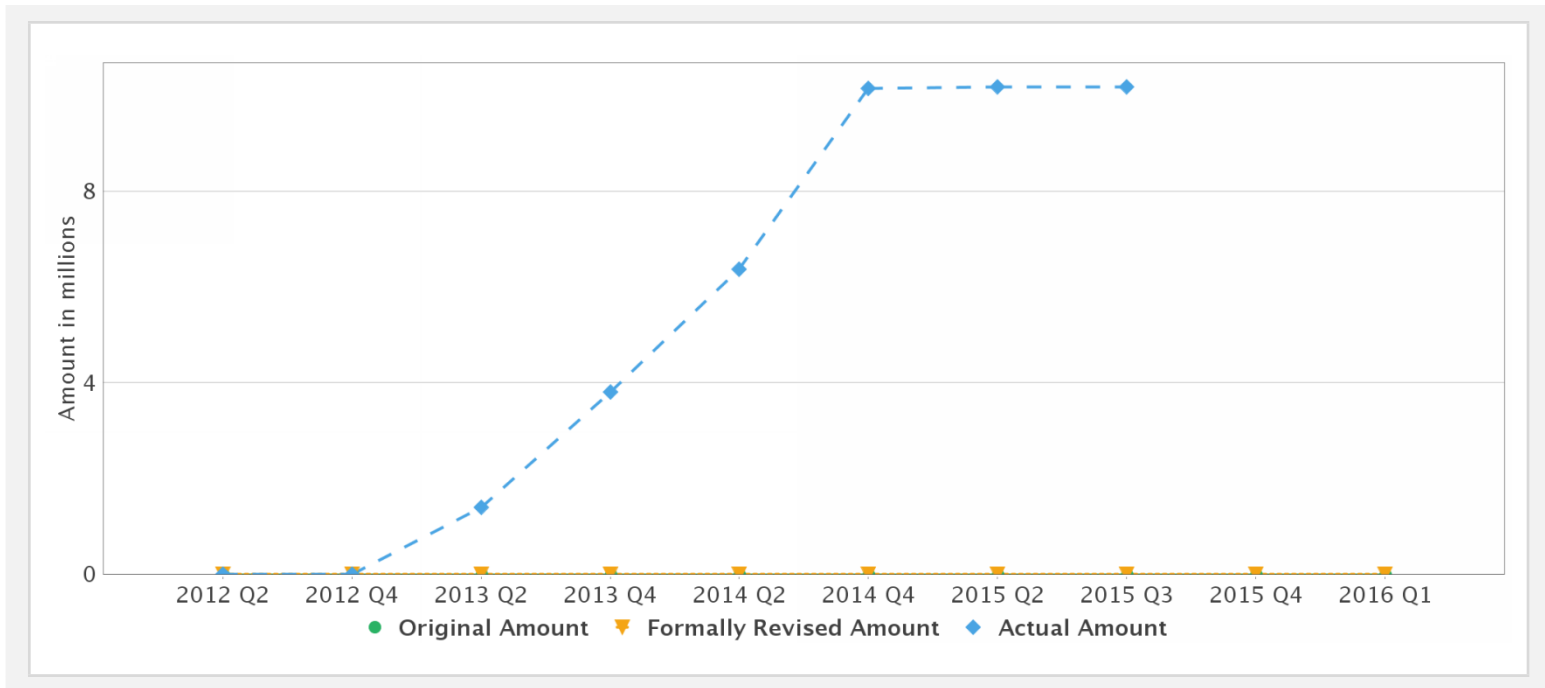
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P114841	IDA-50150	Effective	XDR	18.20	18.20	0.00	10.18	8.02	 56%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P114841	IDA-50150	Effective	27-Oct-2011	04-Dec-2011	25-Mar-2012	31-Dec-2015	31-Oct-2017

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.