



Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 08-Apr-2019 | Report No: PIDISDSA25899

**BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Project Data**

Country South Asia	Project ID P167898	Project Name Additional Financing for the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project	Parent Project ID (if any) P145054
Parent Project Name Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA-1000)	Region SOUTH ASIA	Estimated Appraisal Date 05-Apr-2019	Estimated Board Date 30-May-2019
Practice Area (Lead) Energy & Extractives	Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Ministry of Finance, Tajikistan, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Kyrgyz Republic	Implementing Agency Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat, National Electric Grid of Kyrgyzstan, Barki Tajik, National Transmission and Despatch Company (NTDC)

Proposed Development Objective(s) Parent

The objective of the project is to create the conditions for sustainable electricity trade between the Central Asian countries of Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic and the South Asian countries of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Components

Construction of High Voltage Transmission Infrastructure
 Technical Assistance and Project Implementation Support
 Community Support Programs

PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**SUMMARY**

Total Project Cost	65.00
Total Financing	65.00
of which IBRD/IDA	65.00
Financing Gap	0.00



DETAILS

World Bank Group Financing

International Development Association (IDA)	65.00
IDA Credit	65.00

Environmental Assessment Category

A-Full Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

Pakistan is the world’s sixth most populous country, with over 207 million people, and in recent years it has achieved substantial poverty reduction and GDP growth. GDP growth was 5.8 percent in FY18; however, growing fiscal and external imbalances could slow future growth. Poverty headcount declined from 64.3 percent in 2001 to about 24.3 percent in 2015. Nevertheless, inequality persists, and the country ranks low on both the Human Development Index, at 150th out of 189 countries, and the Human Capital Index, at 134th out of 157 countries. Macroeconomic conditions, natural disasters, and enduring unreliable power supply continue to constrain the country’s achievement of its poverty reduction and shared prosperity goals.

Pakistan’s economic outlook is looking strong in the context of investments being made over the last three years. The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) encompasses a package of energy and infrastructure investments in Pakistan and is expected to boost improve transport logistics economic growth and employment. Governance in the country has also improved in that there is a conscious effort towards pursuit of policies that will help engage the private sector and promote efficiency, limiting the role of the state in production, distribution and trade. These efforts are reflected in the slight improvement in Pakistan’s Doing Business ranking, which improved from 148 to 144 over the period 2012-13 to 2014-15. Efforts towards price stabilization and incentive structures in the agriculture sector have resulted in better trade of commodities, enabling farmers to access better markets domestically and internationally. Consistency in policies, which is a key factor for economic growth are directly linked to stable democratic governments.

Sectoral and Institutional Context



Pakistan was one of the first countries to reform its power sector in the early 1990s. The first stages of reform were aimed at attracting private investment into the generation segment and were initially highly successful. The Government also unbundled the Power Wing of the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA), which had been a publicly owned, vertically integrated monopoly with responsibility for generation, transmission, and distribution: four thermal generation companies (GENCOs) and eight distribution companies (DISCOs) were formed, and the large hydropower assets remained with WAPDA. The NTDC was also established as the single buyer of electricity and to be the transmission network owner and system operator. The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA), was also set up and is responsible for licensing, determining tariffs, creating standards, and monitoring sector performance. Under the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, the provinces may generate, transmit, and distribute power within their territorial jurisdiction, although the provinces' use of these powers has so far been limited.

About 8,000 MW of generation have been added in Pakistan, since 2016 but supply demand deficits persist because of the transmission & distribution network constraints and growing power sector's financial deficit. Due to these network and financial constraints, the actual supply-demand gap, despite having dependable capacity of 30,590 MW against peak demand of about 25,000 MW during the maximum demand summer period of 2018, remained around 4,000 MW compared to about 5,000-6,000 MW a year ago. In the three months between September and December 2018, payables to power producers increased from PKR 670 billion to PKR 800 billion and when combined with PKR 600 billion outstanding loans to clear some of the arrears in the past, the total power sector liabilities are estimated to be around PKR 1.4 trillion which is equivalent to about 20 months of power purchase cost. The increasing level of arrears not only affects generation but also impacts the investments needed to upgrade and expand the transmission and distribution network and thus compounds the problem. The demand projections are also suppressed because at 471kWh per capita, electricity consumption is about one-fifth of the middle-income countries which Pakistan aspires to become by 2047. To achieve GDP growth rate of 7 percent to reach middle-income status electricity supply ought to increase by about 10 percent¹ and should be reliable and cost effective. For this low-cost supply needs to be added (government plans to add about 18,000 MW by 2028 however requirement is estimated to be about twice as much to meet the 10 percent growth in demand and to retire some of the high-cost inefficient thermal plants), and transmission and distribution system needs to be expanded and modernized.

Given the above context, the CASA-1000 Project is seen as a “win-win” proposition, with its robust economic viability derived from not needing to set up any new generation capacity in exploiting a currently missed opportunity for regional energy trade and in supplying clean electricity during summer peak demand, replacing more expensive generation based on imported fuel. Furthermore, by establishing a third party open access regime, the parent project could enable other suppliers to avail of unutilized transmission capacity to access electricity markets in the CASA-1000 countries during the non-supply period. The project is, therefore, expected to: (i) alleviate summer electricity shortages in Pakistan and/or reduce its dependence on costly and polluting oil-based generation; and (ii) set the stage for expanded energy trade between Central Asia and South Asia.

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Original PDO

¹ According to NTDC's supply demand forecast – high growth scenario, for every 1 percent growth in GDP electricity supply increased by about 1.4 percent.



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Current PDO

No changes to the PDO.

Key Results

D. Project Description

The Central Asia-South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA-1000) aims to facilitate electricity trade between hydropower surplus countries in Central Asia and electricity deficient countries in South Asia by putting in place the commercial and institutional arrangements and the transmission infrastructure required for this trade. The four countries participating in the project – Afghanistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan and Tajikistan.

The CASA-1000 Project is implemented by the national transmission companies of the four countries, namely: (i) Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS) in Afghanistan; (ii) Joint Stock Company (JSC) National Electric Grid of Kyrgyzstan (NEGK) in the Kyrgyz Republic; (iii) Open Joint Stock Holding Company Barki Tajik (BT) in Tajikistan and (iv) National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC) in Pakistan.

The proposed Pakistan CASA Additional Financing Project (AF) will be used to cover the financing gap in the amount of US\$65 million for the committed contracts in Pakistan under the CASA-1000 Project's Component A: Construction of High Voltage Transmission Infrastructure and Component B: Technical Assistance and Project Implementation Support. The AF will also finance new activities under Component B involving capacity building and support to NTDC for contract management, environmental & social safeguards plans implementation and monitoring, communications, legal and financial management. Financing of the HVDC line in Pakistan under the CASA-1000 Project's Component A: Construction of High Voltage Transmission Infrastructure is provided by IsDB.

The proposed AF will allow Pakistan's National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC), the implementing agency, to complete the Pakistan infrastructure part of the CASA-1000 Project on time in sustainable manner. This requirement was identified early on during the preparation of the CASA-1000 Project. At the time, the Bank agreed to revisit the financing requirement once the HVDC convertor station underwent the bidding process and actual costs were finalized and known. Without the AF, NTDC may not be able to mobilize funding from the market adequately, nor in a timely manner, to meet its contractual commitments and commercial agreements with other CASA countries.

No changes to the original Project Development Objective (PDO) or original design are proposed. The proposed AF will not trigger any new environmental and social safeguards policy. All environmental and social safeguard policies triggered for original project continue to apply to this AF.



E. Implementation

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

Following effectiveness of the CASA-1000 Project in January 2018, implementation is underway and implementation arrangements are satisfactory. The existing implementation arrangements including fiduciary and safeguards will remain unchanged. The proposed AF is expected to be completed within the CASA-1000 Project's revised implementation period. Following the restructuring of January 2019, the closing date for the CASA-1000 Project is now March 31, 2023. NTDC will remain the implementing agency for Pakistan CASA AF and the CASA-1000 Project in Pakistan.

F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The CASA-1000 project finances the construction of a cross-border transmission infrastructure comprising about 475 km of 500kV HVAC transmission lines to carry power from Kyrgyz to Tajikistan and about 800km long 500kV HVDC transmission line linking Tajikistan through Afghanistan to Pakistan with HVDC convertor stations in Tajikistan and Pakistan. The AF will finance the financing gaps for the committed contracts for the Nowshera HVDC converter station under the CASA-1000 while the IsDB will finance the HVDC transmission line from Afghanistan border to the Nowshera converter station. The length of HVDC line through Pakistan will be around 100 KM in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province (KP), considered a fragile state. It will commence from Torkham to the Nowshera substation. The security environment related to the construction and operation of the line remains uncertain in some of the regions. Pakistan has developed a security management plan that outlines key features of security risk mitigation which specifies how these will be handled during both the construction phase (when the risk is highest) as well as during the operation phase. A salient feature of the project design is the emphasis placed on establishing strong outreach to local communities along the proposed right of way of the transmission line, which should enhance their understanding of, and support for, the project. The support of the communities through development assistance to local communities via the CSPs will thus be a critical complement to the security arrangements mentioned above. The transmission line will be connected to the Pakistan electricity system through the HVDC converter station. Nowshera is the chief city of Nowshera District in the KP Province. Located in the Valley of Peshawar, and lies on the Kabul River, approximately 43 km east of the provincial capital Peshawar, along the historic Grand Trunk Road. The converter station will be built in an area of 145 acres (about 59 ha), which is currently under agriculture use. National Highway 5 is located on the northern side of the subproject area and a major provincial road (Jallozai – Shamshatoo Road) is located abutting the proposed converter and grid station on the south-eastern side. The station is surrounded by cultivated lands on the eastern, northern and western sides; and by brick kilns on the southern side. The nearest residential buildings are located about 800 m away from the northeastern side of the station.



G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Salma Omar, Social Specialist
Imran-ul Haq, Social Specialist
Ahmad Imran Aslam, Environmental Specialist

SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	
Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	

KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

The CASA-1000 Project was categorized as a Category A project because of the construction of a greenfield HVDC transmission line which may pass through some ecologically sensitive locations including Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and Ramsar sites in the CASA-1000 Project. Thus Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01 and Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04 were triggered for CASA-1000. In Pakistan there are no such hotspots, therefore the project impacts are going to be limited, mostly temporary, reversible and short to medium term which can be adequately mitigated through a well-planned environmental management and mitigation plans. However, the security risks in some location along the transmission line route in KP areas may cause challenges in mitigating these impacts. Permanent impacts are related



to changes in landscape, including landscape and visual impact and land use with no impacts on EMF from the HVDC transmission line. Temporary impacts are related to community health and safety due to noise, air and soil contamination during construction activities as well as oil spills, issues related to generation and disposal of hazardous waste during operation etc. The project is also expected to place restrictions on vegetation growth along the ROW of the transmission line. Possible land erosion could also be caused during construction of the transmission line in the mountainous regions of the project area.

As the AF scope will cover the financing gap under CASA-1000, the original safeguard policy will be continued to be applied. In addition, the project team reviewed all the safeguard policies that may apply to the infrastructure under Component A and the new activities proposed under Component B given the updated information from the completed and on-going country specific ESIA and RAPs under CASA-1000. The review results confirmed that no change to the applicable policies is needed.

Field surveys reflect that the project HVDC transmission line will not pass Chitral District in KP where the only known indigenous people in Pakistan are present and therefore the World Bank OP 4.10 policy is not triggered. Regarding OP 4.11, the ESIA for the Nowshera converter station find no impacts on PCR and the screening of the HVDC transmission line does not reveal any important PCR. There is flexibility in alignment of the transmission line and therefore, impacts on Cultural Resources can be avoided or minimized. The REA provides a process for screening out projects with significant impacts and a PCR management plan into the ESMP for minor impacts. The ESIA for Nowshera converter station and the draft ESIA for HVDC Lines contain a chance find procedure.

OP 4.12 continues to be triggered due to the potential need for land acquisition related to the various components of the transmission system, grid and converter station; the existence of physical structures that might have to be removed; and the possibility that affected settlements might have to be physically relocated. The project requires land acquisition and involuntary resettlement which, if not managed adequately, can have serious social impacts. For Pakistan land acquisition especially for the right of way (ROW) of transmission lines has historically been the main bottleneck for most transmission projects. Early focus on the land acquisition process by the NTDC and close collaboration with all concerned parties for the project convertor and electrode substations and transmission line is essential to mitigate these impacts and delays.

Skilled and semi-skilled laborers will be employed during construction in Pakistan, with potential host communities lacking capacity to manage any influxes. The anticipated risks related to labor influx and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) are assessed as substantial. These risks will be managed by development of labor influx management plans during the preparation of ESIA's. NTDC has been implementing transmission lines throughout Pakistan in the past, however once the GRM is set up, it will give the communities the opportunity to voice any concerns.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: The broad conclusion of the REA and previously conducted ESIA studies is that overall E&S adverse impacts are considered to be limited and of low to moderate nature, due to the lack of protected areas and the general avoidance of heavily populated communities as well as there being sufficient flexibility to adjust the Transmission Line and infrastructure to avoid any 'local' sensitive features that might be encountered. Potential indirect long term impacts are likely to be positive as the proposed project would help Pakistan to meet its electricity demands from a hydro source which otherwise to have been met from other fossil fuel based thermal power sources or several back-up diesel generation sets.



3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts. Project alternatives will be considered during ESIA.

4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.

Since the alignment of the HVDC transmission line was yet to be finalized at the time of the CASA-1000 Project appraisal, country-specific Land Acquisition and Resettlement Frameworks (LARFs) were developed in line with the relevant legal policies in the respective countries and the World Bank OP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement was triggered to guide future detailed resettlement planning and implementation. The frameworks describe the overall possible impacts, project policies including its entitlement policies, resettlement planning, institutional and implementation arrangements, including grievance redress and monitoring mechanisms. Similarly, a Regional Environment Assessment (REA) to cover all four countries was prepared before appraisal which serves as the basis for preparation of country specific ESIA's during implementation. Both documents remain valid for the AF as well.

The country specific ESIA and RAP were prepared for the Nowshera Converter Station and Grid station and the HVDC transmission line under the CASA-1000 project. The ESIA and RAP for Nowshera Converter Station and Grid Station which is partly financed under National Transmission and Modernization I Project (NTMP-I, P154987), were submitted to the Bank, cleared in 2017 and disclosed under NTMP-I. The country specific ESIA and RAP for the Pakistan HVDC transmission line was drafted but is subject to revision after Bank's review to meet the project requirements. NTDC will hire a consulting firm to update and finalize the ESIA and RAP. To ensure that the safeguard instruments will be of satisfactory quality, international individual experts will be hired by NTDC who will review the EISA and RAP prepared by the consulting firm prior to submission to the Bank. These instruments will be reviewed, cleared the Bank and disclosed by the Bank and NTDC prior to the start of the implementation of the HVDC line.

Implementation Arrangements: Environmental and Social Impact Cell (ESIC) – Dasu Transmission Line Project (DTLP) in NTDC will have the overall responsibility to manage safeguards of the project. The ESIC DTLP is staffed with a Manager (environment and social safeguards), a Deputy (social) and an Assistant Manager (environment). The cell will (i) support the preparation of the safeguard instruments; and (ii) supervise implementation. The existing ESIC-DTLP team has limited expertise and experience to implement Category A projects in fragile and conflict-affected areas. Therefore, enforcement and compliance with safeguard instruments would be a challenging task. To address the capacity constraints, the HVDC OE TOR included support to NTDC in supervising implementation of the environment safeguards and social safeguards plans by the EPC contractors as specified in the EPC contracts and will make all necessary inputs and advice to project team and prepare relevant reports related to environment and social safeguard. In addition, NTDC agreed to recruit an additional environment and a social staff to the ESIC DTLP but will work as members of the CASA PIU to enhance its capacity and manage its workload.

The ESIC-DTLP with support from the HVDC OE will ensure that the Contractor prepares an acceptable Contractor's ESMP before works begin. ESIC-DTLP will compile quarterly monitoring reports on ESMP and RAP compliance to be sent to the World Bank, throughout the construction period. The ESIC-DTLP and the HVDC OE will provide trainings to the NTDC field personnel responsible for monitoring of environmental compliance during both construction and operation and maintenance phases of the project. The safeguards instruments prepared for CASA-100 will also include capacity building and trainings to be conducted for the ESIC-DTLP and project offices to carry out their functions. Close monitoring and oversight by the Bank's safeguard team is also essential to ensure satisfactory safeguard compliance.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies,



with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

The affected people (AP) and communities along the project are key project stakeholders. Other stakeholders include NGO’s and other civil society groups that represent environmental interests in the project area of influence and government officials from relevant departments or institutions. Consultation on the Regional Environmental Assessment (REA) and LARF took place with the relevant NGOs and other stakeholders during the preparation of the CASA-1000 Project. The feedback from the consultations and the mechanisms for the future consultations, both have been incorporated in these safeguards instruments.

NTDC organized series of consultations with the APs, communities in the project areas, NGOs and other stakeholders in 2017 during preparation of the ESIA and RAP for both Nowshera converter station and grid stations and for the HVDC transmission line, including two female exclusive consultations.

The major issues discussed were related to the TL route alignment to avoid conflict with existing land use and NTDC explained that most part of the TL will pass through the barren area; the accurate estimation of social and environmental costs which was agreed by NTDC, and it explained that the accurate costs will be determined during specific ESIA and RAPs; discussion on NTDC capacity to manage E&S risks; scope of community support project and its relevance to the TL; noise and tree cutting expected due to the TL which was explained by NTDC that TL will not cause noise and tree cutting will be compensated by the tree plantation.

Longer periods of construction activities and delays in compensation procedures has been the main concerns for Nowshera stations. Most APs were concerned about (i) adequacy and timely payment of compensation/resettlement assistance, (ii) Issuance of entitlements by the revenue department, (iii) clearance of land to resume agriculture activity by the farmers (iv) employment opportunity for APs and their household members during construction activities (iv) safe mobility of commuters particularly women and children, and safety measures during construction activities. Risk of traffic accidents during construction phase of the project; Mobility of women and children; The excess construction material and construction waste from the right of way of transmission line should be regularly removed.

The concerns and issues raised during consultations were considered in the design of the project and resettlement assistance and rehabilitation packages for the APs. Details are provided in the respective instruments. Consultations are expected to be carried out during revision of the ESIA and RAP for the HVDC transmission line.

B. Disclosure Requirements (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other

Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
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"In country" Disclosure

Afghanistan
25-Nov-2013



Comments

Kyrgyz Republic
15-Nov-2013

Comments

Pakistan
11-Nov-2013

Comments

Tajikistan
13-Nov-2013

Comments

Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process

Date of receipt by the Bank

Date of submission for disclosure

"In country" Disclosure

Afghanistan
25-Nov-2013

Comments

Kyrgyz Republic
15-Nov-2013

Comments

Pakistan
11-Nov-2013

Comments

Tajikistan
13-Nov-2013

Comments



C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting) (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Sector Manager (SM) review and approve the EA report?

Yes

Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?

Yes

OP/BP 4.04 - Natural Habitats

Would the project result in any significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats?

No

If the project would result in significant conversion or degradation of other (non-critical) natural habitats, does the project include mitigation measures acceptable to the Bank?

NA

OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement

Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Sector Manager review the plan?

Yes

Is physical displacement/relocation expected?

Is economic displacement expected? (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods)

The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?

Yes

Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?



Yes

All Safeguard Policies

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?

Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?

Yes

CONTACT POINT

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Aibek Kaliev
Deputy Minister

Implementing Agencies

Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat
Abdul Razique Samadi
Chief Executive Officer

National Electric Grid of Kyrgyzstan
Medetbek Aitkulov
General Director

Barki Tajik
Rahmatzoda Rustam
Chairman

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