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Viet Nam : B.Grimm Viet Nam Solar Power Project (Phu Yen Project)

Nonsovereign Project | 53270-001

Status: Active

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Project Name

B.Grimm Viet Nam Solar Power Project (Phu Yen Project)

Project Number

53270-001

Borrower / Company

Phu Yen TTP Joint Stock Company

Country / Economy

Viet Nam

Location

Phu Yen District

Type or Modality of Assistance

3902

Loan

Ordinary capital resources

USD 27.41 million

Committed

8379

Loan

Leading Asia's Private Infrastructure Fund (LEAP)

USD 9.14 million

Committed

CF93

B-Loan

Other

USD 145.89 million

Committed

Operational Priorities

OP1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities

OP2: Accelerating progress in gender equality

OP3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability

OP5: Promoting rural development and food security

Sector / Subsector

Energy / Renewable energy generation - solar

Gender

Effective gender mainstreaming

Responsible ADB Department

Private Sector Operations Department

Responsible ADB Division

Portfolio Management Division, PSOD

Responsible ADB Officer

Nguyen, Lien

Project Sponsor(s)

Description

The project supports the borrower, Phu Yen Joint Stock Company, to operate a 257-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic power plant and its associated facilities in Phu Yen Province, Viet Nam. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) financing will meet the borrower's requirements for longer-tenor United States (US) dollar-denominated project financing, which local financial institutions are unable to provide.

Objectives and Scope

The project entails the construction and operation of a 257 MW solar photovoltaic power plant and its associated facilities in Phu Yen Province, Vietnam.

Status of Development Objectives

The borrower will report on key performance indicators, including the outcome and outputs indicators identified in the design and monitoring framework.

Status of Operation/Construction

The project has already reach Commercial Operation Date in June 2019.

Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy

The project is consistent with ADB's Strategy 2030, which outlines seven operational priorities to address development challenges in Asia and the Pacific. It supports two of those priorities: (i) tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability; and (ii) addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequality. It also supports Strategy 2030's objectives to expand the role of private sector operations and mobilize additional resources on top of ADB's own financing.

The project aligns with ADB's Energy Policy, which supports wider access to energy through investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. It will contribute to ADB's target of \$6 billion in annual financing for climate mitigation and adaptation by 2020.

Safeguard Categories

Environment	B
Involuntary Resettlement	B
Indigenous Peoples	B

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

An environmental and social compliance audit was conducted by an independent consultant to assess the project's performance against ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement requirements. The project's environmental impact assessment report was prepared in compliance with Vietnamese regulations and approved by the chair of the Provincial People's Committee in July 2018. The potential impacts from the project have been identified and effective measures to avoid and mitigate the adverse impacts are in the in the safeguard reports and plans. The borrower has agreed to implement corrective actions to address the gaps observed during the audit before the loan drawdown.

Involuntary Resettlement

An independent third party undertook an audit of the land transfer and its impact on existing users. As mitigation measures for potential residual impacts and in accordance with the audit recommendation, a livelihood restoration plan (LRP) will be prepared and implemented for the affected, vulnerable, willing and suitable families, and a project level grievance redress mechanism will be developed to receive and address potential concerns of the project-affected people by the borrower. The LRP will build on the livelihood support already provided to affected households to address the long-term impact of land and livelihood losses. The LRP will include an assessment of affected households' socioeconomic condition and the provision of opportunities for skills building and alternative livelihoods to ensure the restoration of sustenance and livelihood status to at least pre-project levels.

Indigenous Peoples

The land acquisition included a communal lot used as a graveyard of the Cham Hoi Roi ethnic group. A total of 18 graves owned by 16 Cham households were transferred to adjoining land parcels next to the site boundary. The audit confirmed that the graveyard was relocated in accordance with the sociocultural norms and practices of the Cham people. The project will (i) continue to engage with the ethnic group in a culturally appropriate manner, and (ii) provide economic opportunities (as part of the larger livelihood restoration measures) for socioeconomic development to willing and qualified households of this group of ethnic minorities.

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

The communities surrounding the solar power plant, especially the poor and the vulnerable, will benefit from employment opportunities, livelihood prospects, and community development projects implemented by the Hoa Hoi Commune and the company in relation to the project.

The borrower engaged with various stakeholders in the establishment of the project. During the preparation of the environmental assessment, the local government offices, especially at the commune level, were consulted as well as the local communities affected by the establishment of the solar farm and its associated facilities. Integral to the land rights acquisition process were the consultations and negotiations with affected households undertaken by the District Land Fund Development Center and organized by concerned village communes.

Timetable for assistance design, processing and implementation

Concept Clearance

29 Oct 2019

Credit Committee Meeting

28 Feb 2020

Approval	08 Apr 2020
Last PDS Update	07 Nov 2023

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