

★ > Zarafshan Wind Power Project

Uzbekistan: Zarafshan Wind Power Project

Nonsovereign Project | 55248-002

Status: Proposed				
<u>Overview</u> <u>Proje</u>	<u>ct Data Sheet</u>	<u>Documents</u>		
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Project Name Zarafshan Wind Po	ower Project			
Project Number 55248-002				
Borrower / Comp Shamol Zarafshan	-	Enterprise LLC		
Country / Econon Uzbekistan	ny			
Location Nation-wide				

Type or Modality of Assistance

B-Loan Other USD 10.00 million Approved 4197 Loan Ordinary capital resources USD 65.00 million

Approved

Strategic Agendas

Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth

Drivers of Change

Partnerships Private sector development

Sector / Subsector

Energy / Renewable energy generation - wind

Gender Equity and Mainstreaming

Some gender elements

Responsible ADB Department

Private Sector Operations Department

Responsible ADB Division

Infrastructure Finance Division 1

Responsible ADB Officer

Malik, Danyaal

Project Sponsor(s)

Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company PJSC - Masdar

Description

500MW grid-connected wind power plant located in Zarafshan City, Uzbekistan.

Objectives and Scope

Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy

The main objectives of the government's energy sector policy are to (i) expand generation capacity through renewables, (ii) improve security of supply from domestic energy resources, and (iii) promote private sector participation. Zarafshan is closely aligned with the government's policy directions as well as ADB's country partnership strategy (CPS) for Uzbekistan, 20192023, which aims to support the country's movement toward a vibrant and inclusive market economy and the transformation of the state's role.

The expansion of renewables is the centerpiece of Uzbekistan's commitment under the Paris Agreement. The project is also consistent with the strategic direction and operational priorities of ADB's Strategy 2030 by way of tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability and accelerating progress in gender equality.

Safeguard Categories		
Environment	A	
Involuntary Resettlement	В	
Indigenous Peoples	С	

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	The project is categorized as A for environment in accordance with the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). The project site lies within the central part of the Kyzylkum Desert in Tamdy District of Navoi Region. It occupies approximately 9,600 hectares of land that is used seasonally for rough grazing of sheep, goats and horses by farmers and herders. Project activities have the potential to cause significant adverse environmental impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented as the project is located approximately 3.5 km from Mount Aktau, an Important Bird Area (IBA) which supports breeding and resident populations of raptors of international and national conservation status. The project's environment, health, and safety risks and impacts have been identified and assessed, and appropriate mitigation measures have been developed, as detailed in the ESIA.
Involuntary Resettlement	The project is categorized as B for involuntary resettlement in accordance with the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). It is located on land owned by the local government. The project area is sub-leased to the farmers and is used for rough grazing of sheep, goats and horses. A project substation and overhead transmission lines are located outside of the sub-leased land on the land owned by the government. The ESIA and the social compliance audit have identified that the project will not cause involuntary physical displacement but is expected to cause involuntary economic displacement of some farmer and herder households. To mitigate the impact, A livelihood restoration plan was prepared and will be implemented by the borrower in accordance with national legislation and regulations and ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, 2009). A community development plan will also be developed prior to construction to manage impacts on communal use of the project area.

Indigenous Peoples	The project is categorized as C for Indigenous Peoples in accordance with the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). The project ESIA and a Social Compliance Audit confirm no presence of or impacts on distinct and vulnerable ethnic minority or indigenous peoples, or their physical and cultural assets in the project area.
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	Multiple engagements and public consultations were undertaken over the project's social, health and safety, and environmental impacts and benefits with the communities, Makhallas (village societies) and local authorities in the project area. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan with a grievance redress mechanism was also prepared to engage with and address concerns of the local community during the construction and operation period. Concerns of women and vulnerable people specifically were sought and considered.

Timetable for assistance design, processing and implementation		
Concept Clearance	28 Apr 2022	
Credit Committee Meeting	28 Apr 2022	
Approval	26 Jul 2022	
Last PDS Update	29 Sep 2022	

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