

## SBF Project Implementation Monitoring Report

### Uzbekistan: Rural Infrastructure Development Project (previously: Prosperous Villages Project)

#### 1. Project Information

Project ID:	000328	Investment Number:	L0328A
Member:	Uzbekistan	Region:	Central asia
Sector:	Others	Sub-sector:	N/A
AIB Financing Type:	Loan: 82 USD million	Co-financier(s):	World Bank
E&S category:	B	Borrower:	Republic of Uzbekistan
Red Flags Assigned:	0 (Q1: 0)	Monitoring Regime:	Regular Monitoring
Implementing Agency:	Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction (MoEDPR)		
Project Team Leader:	Zacharias Ziegelhöfer		
Project Team Members:	Zhixi Zhu, Environment Specialist Irish Fe Aguilar, Social Development Specialist Yi Geng, Sr. Financial Management Specialist Jurminla Jurminla, Sr. Procurement Specialist Liu Yang, Counsel		
Completed Site Visits by AIB:	Virtual Missions: June 2020, August 2020, February 2021, June 2021.		
Planned Site Visits by AIB:	Virtual Missions: Q1 2022 and Q3 2022.		

#### 2. Project Summary and Objectives

The Project Objectives are to (i) improve the quality of basic infrastructure and services and (ii) strengthen participatory local governance processes in targeted rural villages.

This is a multi-sectoral rural infrastructure project. The project has the following two components.

Component 1: Demand-driven Investments in Basic Infrastructure and Services. The Project finances sub-projects comprising investments in basic infrastructure and services. The types of investments include access to water supply for drinking, irrigation, and agricultural production; sanitation services; rehabilitation of social facilities; rehabilitation of roads, footpaths and bridges; rural electrification, and energy efficiency improvements. Investments are subject to a negative list that includes housing construction and renovation or any investments that require physical displacement or resettlement of people.

Component 2: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Institutional Support. This component will support a project implementation structure within the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction (MoEDPR). The component provides financing for operational costs, consultants, essential equipment, technical assistance, and training. Funding is also provided for information dissemination, beneficiary assessments, periodic surveys, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities, a management information system (MIS), project audits, and a project-level grievance redress mechanism (GRM) that will handle grievances.

#### 3. Key Dates

Approval:	Dec. 12, 2019	Signing:	May. 28, 2020
Effective:	Jun. 24, 2020	Restructured (if any):	Oct. 5, 2020
Orig. Closing:	Dec. 31, 2024	Rev. Closing (if any):	

#### 4. Disbursement Summary (million)

Currency:	USD		
a) Committed:	82	b) Cancellation (if any):	
c) Disbursed:	1.05	d) Most recent disbursement: (amount / date)	1.05, May. 6, 2021
e) Undisbursed:	80.95	f) Disbursement Ratio(%) <sup>1</sup> :	1.3

<sup>1</sup> Disbursement Ratio is defined as the volume (i.e. the dollar amount) of total disbursed amount as a percentage of the net committed volume, i.e.,  $f = c / (a - b)$

## 5. Project Implementation Update

After delays to project start-up, the project is making satisfactory progress towards achieving its objective. Qishloq (village) development plans (QDPs) have been completed in 23 villages, and community mobilization, planning and decision-making activities are ongoing in further villages in Jizzakh, Syrdarya, and Andijan regions. Contracts have been signed with Facilitating Partners (including a joint venture consisting of international and national NGOs) responsible for community mobilization activities in Namangan, Ferghana, and Andijan regions. Community mobilization activities are thus expected to commence in approximately 130 new villages in these regions during the 2021 calendar year. Subproject designs have been completed for two subprojects, and design services are expected to commence shortly for another 18 subprojects identified thus far in completed QDPs.

Components	Physical Progress	Environmental & Social Compliance	Procurement
<p>Component 1: Demand-driven Investments in Basic Infrastructure and Services. The Project will finance sub-projects comprising investments in basic infrastructure and services which will be planned and prioritized jointly by participating district administrations and communities. The types of investments will include: access to water supply for drinking, irrigation, and agricultural production; sanitation services; rehabilitation of social facilities; rehabilitation of roads, footpaths and bridges; rural electrification, and energy efficiency improvements. Investments are subject to a negative list that includes housing construction and renovation or any investments that require physical displacement or resettlement of people.</p>	<p>No physical progress yet.</p>	<p>The Project Operations Manual (POM), adopted by the MoEDPR on May 18, 2020, is in line with the environmental and social safeguards procedures defined in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Resettlement Policy Framework. The POM provides additional details on the grievance redress mechanism (GRM), including the telephone hotline, the website, the email address, and grievance redress procedures. The ESMF has incorporated safety procedures during the COVID19 pandemic. Environmental and Social (ES) documents for the first two sub-projects are under preparation. Preliminary screening indicates that there are no associated impacts on private land, property, assets, or livelihoods, either owned, rented, or informally used.</p>	<p>Implementation progress is slowly picking up. Major procurement - selection of: i) Facilitating Partner for Namangan region (MoED-PVP-CS-1); and ii) Facilitating Partner for Ferghana and Andijan regions (MoED-PVP-CS-2) has been concluded as they have already signed Contracts and community mobilization activities are expected to commence in approximately 130 new villages during the 2021 calendar year. Design works for two subprojects and design service for the remaining 18 subprojects are expected to commence shortly hereafter. QDPs have been completed in 23 villages and community mobilization, planning and decision-making activities are ongoing. The World Bank has retained procurement performance rating as "moderately unsatisfactory", due to the slow pace of project procurement, and AIIB concurs to it.</p>
<p>Component 2: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Institutional Support. This component will support a project implementation structure within the Ministry of Economy and Industry. The component will provide financing for operational costs, consultants, essential equipment, technical assistance, and training. Funding will also be provided for information dissemination, beneficiary assessments, periodic surveys, monitoring and evaluation (M&amp;E) activities, a management information system (MIS), project audits, and a project-level grievance redress mechanism (GRM) that will handle grievances.</p>	<p>No physical progress yet.</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Project implementation is ongoing. Subproject designs have been completed for two subprojects, and design services are expected to commence shortly for another 18 subprojects.</p>

### Financial Management:

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) has adopted a POM, which is satisfactory to the WB and AIIB. All financial management staff based in Tashkent and the regional offices have been recruited. Initial advance of USD1.05 million Bank loan proceeds has been released to the Designated Account and not many expenditures incurred. The format of project financial statements has been agreed with PIU and the report submitted to the Bank has been reviewed as acceptable. The financial management performance has been continuously rated as satisfactory.

## 6. Status of the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

The project has established a telephone hotline, email address, online portal, and mailing address whereby anyone can submit queries/complaints regarding the project. These details are included in the GRM Manual annexed to the POM, approved by the WB and adopted by MoEDPR on May 18, 2020, and translated into Uzbek and Russian languages. At the time of reporting, the GRM received 20 queries which include requests to add other villages to the Project area, requests for information on the villages selected to receive Project support, and requests for employment at the PIU.

## 7. Results Monitoring

N/A

Baseline Year: Jul. 24, 2020 End Target Year: Dec. 30, 2024

### Project Objective Indicators #1

Percentage of sampled male and female respondents who report improvements in the quality of basic rural infrastructure (Percentage).

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	60.00	0	

### Project Objective Indicators #2

Percentage of beneficiaries (male/female) who participate in planning, decision-making, or monitoring subprojects (Percentage)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	60.00 women	6.2% until 2nd quarter of 2021. 49% of participants are women	

### Project Objective Indicators #3

Number of social audits that have been completed across the targeted rural qishloqs (Number)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	100.00	0 until 2nd quarter of 2021	

### Intermediate Result Indicators #1

Number of subproject investments (disaggregated by type) (Number)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 100.00, End Target: 300.00	0 until 2nd quarter of 2021	

### Intermediate Result Indicators #2

Percentage of subprojects that support climate change adaptation or mitigation (Percentage)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 25.00, End Target: 25.00	0 until 2nd quarter of 2021	

### Intermediate Result Indicators #3

Percentage of beneficiaries in targeted rural qishloqs with improved quality of water supply as a result of project investments (Percentage)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 80.00, End Target: 80.00	0 until 2nd quarter of 2021	

## Intermediate Result Indicators #4

Number of project beneficiaries (male/female) (Text)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 110,000 total 55,000 women, End Target: 330,000 total 165,000 women.	0 until 2nd quarter of 2021	

## Intermediate Result Indicators #5

Number of targeted rural qishloqs that produce development plans that reflect community members (male/female) priorities. (Number)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 100.00, End Target: 300.00	28 until 2nd quarter of 2021	

## Intermediate Result Indicators #6

Percentage of targeted rural qishloqs that have at least 50% female representation in the MCA project committees and social accountability roles (monitoring and oversight) (Text)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 37% Mahalla Project Committees 0 Social Accountability Roles, Intermediate Targets: 50% Mahalla Project Committees 50% Social Accountability Roles, End Target: 50% Mahalla Project Committees 50% Social Accountability Roles	89.3% until 2nd quarter of 2021	

## Intermediate Result Indicators #7

Percentage of district project committee members that are female (Percentage)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 11.00 Intermediate Targets: 50.00, End Target: 50.00	7.09% until 2nd quarter of 2021	

## Intermediate Result Indicators #8

Percentage of infrastructure subprojects for which procurement data is publicly accessible. (Percentage)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 100.00, End Target: 100.00	100% until 2nd quarter of 2021	

## Intermediate Result Indicators #9

Percentage of grievances (gender disaggregated) which are received that are resolved (Percentage)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 100.00, End Target: 100.00	100% until 2nd quarter of 2021	

## Intermediate Result Indicators #10

Percentage of qishloqs for which the required information is uploaded to the MIS in a timely fashion for project management to monitor results and for citizens to access (Percentage)

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Dec. 30, 2024	Baseline: 0.00 Intermediate Targets: 80.00, End Target: 80.00	9.2% until 2nd quarter of 2021	

**Remarks:**