

## SBF Project Implementation Monitoring Report

### Uzbekistan: Healthcare Emergency Response Project

#### 1. Project Information

Project ID:	000402	Investment Number:	L0402A
Member:	Uzbekistan	Region:	Central asia
Sector:	Public Health	Sub-sector:	N/A
AIB Financing Type:	Loan: 100 USD million	Co-financier(s):	Asian Development Bank
E&S category:	B	Borrower:	Uzbekistan
Red Flags Assigned:	0 (first submission)	Monitoring Regime:	Regular Monitoring
Implementing Agency:	Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan		
Project Team Leader:	Igor Popkov		
Project Team Members:	Komron Rajabiyon, Investment Associate Christopher Damandl, Senior Counsel Yogesh Malla, Financial Management Specialist Rabindra Shah, Procurement Associate - Operations Zhixi Zhu, Environment Specialist Georgi Dzhartov, Social Development Specialist		
Completed Site Visits by AIB:	No site visits have been completed due to COVID-19 since the loan became effective in Q2 2021. However the project team holds weekly meetings between AIB/ADB and Chairman of Service of Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare and Public Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan to exchange and control project implementation activities.		
Planned Site Visits by AIB:	Dec, 2022 Planned inceptive joint regular review virtual mission with ADB. Resources of ADB Resident Mission in Uzbekistan will be mobilized to undertake the field visit. Moreover, Government aims to hire third party consultant for project implementation and reporting matters.		

#### 2. Project Summary and Objectives

The Project's objective is to strengthen the public health emergency response and preparedness in Uzbekistan to address the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and enhance country's resilience to future public health disasters. The project has three main interlinked components: (1) strengthening the National Laboratory System; (2) establishing a National Surveillance and Response System; and (3) capacity building for COVID-19 treatment and case management. The project components and scope were developed in consultation with the Government and the co-financier, Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The total cost of the project is USD257 million. Government of Uzbekistan has requested Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) to help co-finance the Project in amount of USD200 million. The loan is financed by ADB and AIIB USD100 million each, on a 50:50 ratio. The remainder will be covered by the Government of Uzbekistan, and will mostly consist of taxes and duties.

The expected project beneficiaries will be the population at large given the nature of the disease, but importantly those infected, and at-risk populations, particularly the elderly and people with chronic conditions, and medical and emergency personnel.

#### 3. Key Dates

Approval:	Aug. 13, 2020	Signing:	Dec. 31, 2020
Effective:	Jun. 14, 2021	Restructured (if any):	
Orig. Closing:	Jan. 31, 2023	Rev. Closing (if any):	

#### 4. Disbursement Summary (million)

Currency:	USD		
a) Committed:	100	b) Cancellation (if any):	
c) Disbursed:	0	d) Most recent disbursement: (amount / date)	0,
e) Undisbursed:	100	f) Disbursement Ratio(%) <sup>1</sup> :	0

<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

The Project became effective on June 14, 2021. Since then, tendering preparations under all three components are well on track by the Government of Uzbekistan (GoU). The Government is working to engage with a project company for development of a Feasibility Study for the project and the subsequent implementation.

Involving a turnkey implementation provider will have positive implications on the timeline, quality and accountability of the Project. This work would strengthen Uzbekistan's public health standards by means of its infrastructure and procurement expertise. The selected company will apply dedicated infrastructure, procurement, biomedical and public health experts (among other areas) to support the conduct of this assessment. The Feasibility Study is planned to be completed in 5 months after signing the contract. The Feasibility Study will result in determination of priority equipment to be procured and priority infrastructure works to be undertaken under the Project.

On a separate procurement lot, Government is finalising the tendering of 1000 ambulance vehicles for emergency needs. No-objection on convening the contract negotiations for the ambulance supplier has been issued. First withdrawal application for the contract is expected.

An Environmental Assessment and Review Framework has been prepared for the Project. A project consultant will be engaged for feasibility study and the preparation of E&S instruments for project activities involving civil works.

AIIB agreed that the ADB SPS would apply to the project in lieu of AIIB's ESP.

Components	Physical Progress	Environmental & Social Compliance	Procurement
(1) strengthening the National Laboratory System	Physical implementation not started	No issues	No issues
(2) establishing a National Surveillance and Response System	Physical implementation not started	No issues	No issues
(3) capacity building for COVID-19 treatment and case management	Physical implementation not started	No issues	No issues

### Financial Management:

The Ministry of Health is responsible for overall financial management of the Project to ensure proper usage of funds. The planning, budgeting, funds flow, accounting, reporting, internal controls, and audit arrangements will be aligned with the government's existing system and procedures to the extent possible. The Implementing Agency will prepare the annual work plan and budget including counterpart funds as per procurement plan and financing agreements.

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

The Project GRM will be established and operated in compliance with the Uzbek Regulations as well as with ADB safeguard requirements as specified in the Environmental Assessment and Review Framework. The GRM function to become fully functional upon formation of PIU and with first project procurement activities.

## 7. Results Monitoring

The project implementation is not in active phase yet, hence no results to be reported.

Baseline Year: Jun. 1, 2020 End Target Year: Dec. 31, 2022

### Project Objective Indicators #1

Increase capacity for PCR tests per day.

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Jun. 30, 2020	15,000	15,000	
Dec. 31, 2021	20,000	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2022	25,000	N/A	

### Project Objective Indicators #2

Surge capacity for functional intensive care units attended by trained medical staff.

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Jun. 30, 2020	1,000	1,000	
Dec. 31, 2021	2,000	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2022	3,500	N/A	

#### Intermediate Result Indicators #1

1-a. Number of laboratories renovated to Biosafety Level II equipped with COVID-19 and other related disease diagnostic equipment.

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Jun. 30, 2020	0	0	
Dec. 31, 2021	10	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2022	30	N/A	

#### Intermediate Result Indicators #2

1-b. Number of PCR tests conducted to detect COVID-19.

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Jun. 30, 2020	830,000	830,000	
Dec. 31, 2021	1,000,000	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2022	1,330,000	N/A	

#### Intermediate Result Indicators #3

2-a. Number laboratories providing real-time sex and age disaggregated COVID-19 test results to surveillance and monitoring system.

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Jun. 30, 2020	N/A	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2021	15	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2022	38	N/A	

#### Intermediate Result Indicators #4

3-a. Number of project-supported COVID-19 treatment centers refurbished and upgraded with diagnostic equipment.

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Jun. 30, 2020	N/A	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2021	8	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2022	16	N/A	

#### Intermediate Result Indicators #5

3-b. Share of medical and support staff in sixteen project hospitals trained in infection prevention control and patient management to treat COVID-19 cases and other infectious respiratory diseases (in percentage).

Year	Target	Actual	Others, if any
Jun. 30, 2020	0	N/A	
Dec. 31, 2021	50	N/A	

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Dec. 31, 2022	100	N/A	
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**Remarks:**