



ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK

"Avtoyulinvest" Agency under the Committee for Roads

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

PROJECT: Bukhara Road Network Improvement Project, Phase 1.

ASSIGNMENT: Preparation of Environmental and Social Management Planning

Framework for Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Local Roads Network

Reconstruction Project.

CONTRACT: KKLRNP/LCS/01







PREPARATION OF ESMPF FOR KARAKALPAKSTAN AND KHOREZM LOCAL ROADS NETWORK RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Local Roads Network Reconstruction Project

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List of Abbreviations

AIIB	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank		
AYA	Avtoyulinvest Agency		
LRNRP	Local Roads Network Reconstruction Project		
DD	Detailed Design		
EA	Executing Agency		
EkoStandart	"Ekostandart Ekspert" LLC		
E&S	Environmental and Social		
ESMPF	Environmental and Social Management Planning Framework		
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment		
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement		
ESP	Environmental and Social Policy		
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment		
ESP	Environmental and Social Policy		
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan		
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management System		
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard		
FS	Feasibility Study		
GBV	Gender Based Violence		
GOU	Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan		
GRC	Grievance Redress Commission		
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism		
HS	Health and Safety		
HSP	Health and Safety Plans		
IA	Implementing Agency		
IFC	International Financial Corporation		
KK Project	Reconstruction of the Local Roads Network in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm		
NGO	Non-governmental organization		
OHS	Operational Health and Safety		
PMO	Project Management Office (PMO)		
CSC	Construction Supervision Consultant		
PPM	Project-affected People's Mechanism		
CR	Committee for Roads		
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework		

RC	Road Committee
RPLUS	Rhythm Plus LLC, Uzbekistan
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SEA/SH	Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Harassment
SEE	State Environmental Expertise
SUE	State Unitary Enterprise
SEC	Statement of Environmental Consequences
TOR	Terms of Reference
WBL	Women, Business and the Law Index

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan (RUz) is preparing to receive a proposed investment loan from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to finance the Reconstruction of the Local Roads Network in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Project.
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan (hereinafter referred to as the SEP) prepared as part of the Environmental and Social Management Planning Framework for the project "Reconstruction of the Local Roads Network in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm (hereinafter - ESMPF) in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm region.
- 3. Project implementation will be carried out over 5 years through two phases, 1 and 2. The financing for the Project is proposed to be committed via two separate loan tranches, each with its own Loan agreement, in line with the Project's implementation readiness and allowing for operational viability and efficient resource allocation.
- 4. Phase 1: Reconstruction of up to 188 km of local roads across 9 districts in Khorezm Region, together with Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building as well as Development of Digital Geospatial Platform and Women and Youth Empowerment Program with a proposed AIIB financing amount of USD 71.163 million.
- 5. Phase 2: Reconstruction of up to 328.1 km of local roads across 14 districts in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, with an expected AIIB financing amount of USD 102.312 million. This Phase will be prepared and submitted for AIIB management's verification once agreed conditions for Tranche 2 readiness are met.
- 6. Phase 1 of the Project is slated for a three-year construction period, spanning from 2026 to 2028, followed by a two-year Defect Liability Period and Phase 2 will start by end of 2026.
- 7. The Project consists of three components. Planned activities under the proposed AIB-financed Project include investments in reconstruction 516,1 km of local roads in the Republic of Karakalpakstan (encompassing 23 road sections spanning 328,1 km across 14 districts) and in the Khorezm Region (16 road sections covering 188 km across 9 districts). Additionally, the Project includes capacity building activities for the centralized Project Management Office (PMO) and the development of a digital geospatial platform and Women and Youth Empowerment Program.
- 8. The Road Committee (RC) is the Project Implementing Entity (PIE) responsible for overall project coordination with government agencies and high-level decision-making authorities to ensure timely implementation, and for liaison with AIIB and other development partners.
- 9. Avtoyulinvest Agency (AYA) as a department under RC, manages the Project's general management and implementation, including progress monitoring, procurement supervision, and works plan review.
- 10.RC has established a centralized Project Management Office (PMO) under AYA. To date, a Project Coordinator, a Procurement Specialist, and an ES Specialist have been hired. The Implementing agency is the "Avtoyulinvest" Agency under the Committee for Roads, acting as the project implementing entity.
- 11. Project PMO will assist and collaborate with the project stakeholders for implementation of this SEP and the Project grievance and feedback mechanism during the construction and operation phase.

- 12. The Project has been proposed Category "B" in accordance with AIIB's Environmental and Social Policy due to the limited number of potentially adverse environmental and social (ES) impacts, which will be limited to the Project area and can be managed using conventional ES risk management.
- 13. The Project AoI on this stage will be the twenty project districts. In Karakalpakstan Republic in the Kanlykul, Kegeyli, Takhtakupyr, Shumanai, Khujayli, Amurdarya, Beruniy, Turtkul, Ellikkala, Chimbay, Nukus, Karauzak, Kungrad, Muynak districts and Bagat, Gurlan, Koshkupir, Urgench,, Khiva, Khazarasp, Shavat, Yangiarik, Yangibazar districts in Khorezm region, therefore the number of project stakeholders is large and includes all project impacted settlements and organizations located in the above mentioned project districts.
- 14. The purpose of the SEP is to ensure effective management of stakeholder engagement activities at various stages of Project implementation. The SEP is developed taking into account the requirements of the national legislation, as well as in accordance with the international requirements of the AIIB.
- 15. The Consultant has conducted series of meetings with identified stakeholders at the project area level. In August, September 2024 and May 2025 (project final consultations), the Consultants conducted meetings with the regional and district branches of RC, the road maintenance operators in the project area, 11 public consultations and a focus group discussion in districts located within project influence area. During the meetings, the Consultants introduced the project goals and planned activities. The main concerns and questions raised by the authorities' included inquiries about the project timeline, detailed project design and coverage, proposed road sections. Also, during the final project consultations meetings were held with residents of all districts of the project area. All the benefits and possible impacts during the construction and operation phase, the opinion of residents about the project, and questions and answers were discussed.
- 16. Stakeholder identification is conducted based on available primary and secondary data information, a review of available Project documentation, input from the Project consultants, as well as being informed by the results of site visits. Thirteen stakeholder groups were identified during ESMPF preparation.
- 17. The ESMF, RPF and SEP will be disclosed and available in a public place accessible to the public and local NGOs as well as online. The English, Uzbek and Karakalpak executive summary will be disclosed also.
- 18. The PMO ES Specialist will monitor comments received from Vulnerable/Disadvantage Groups or Persons and, if necessary, other methods of involving them in the decision-making process will be suggested. Information about the Project and feedback forms will also be available online so that young people with good access to online resources will be involved in the consultation process
- 19. The PMO will set up a project-level GRM following the policy requirements of AIIB¹ and laws of the RUz². The GRM shall respond to the inquires and resolve appeals and complaints of people who believe they have been or are likely to be adversely affected

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^{1 &}lt;a href="https://www.aiib.org/en/policies-strategies/_download/environment-framework/AIIB-Environmental-and-Social-Framework_ESF-November-2022-final.pdf">https://www.aiib.org/en/policies-strategies/_download/environment-framework/AIIB-Environmental-and-Social-Framework_ESF-November-2022-final.pdf

² The Law of the RUz "On Appeals of individuals and legal entities" No. LRU-378 dated December 3, 2014 (No. LRU-445as amended from 09 November 2017)

- by social and environmental impacts of the project activities, and/or have complaints about the project's information disclosure and public consultation process.
- 20. Subcomponent 3.1 of the project ToR included Development of Digital Geospatial Platform. The objective of this subcomponent is to create a sophisticated, web-based GIS platform that serves multiple purposes as well as a streamline grievance registration and monitoring, allowing the PMO, supervision consultants, and the Committee for Roads to manage incoming complaints, generate alerts, and track responses in real-time.
- 21. The Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) at the PMO central level at AYA that will be formed in the first quarter of 2025 and include the followings:
- Project Coordinator, PMO, Chairperson;
- ES specialist, PMO, member;
- Chief specialist of Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Region Government department, member;
- Head of the department for the coordination of works on land acquisition and compensation of the Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Region, member;
- Staff of the information service of Main Road Department of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Region.
- 22. AIIB has project-affected people's mechanism. Two or more project affected people, who believe, they have been or are likely to be adversely affected by AIIB's project activities, and their concerns cannot be addressed satisfactorily through project-level GRM or AIIB management processes, may file a complaint for an independent and impartial review by AIIB's Project-affected People's Mechanism (PPM). PMO will disclose the AIIB's PPM in their website and at the project site for the stakeholders.
- 23.PMO will disclose the GRM on its website for the attention of public. The information given to the public should include the contact details of the GRC at the local level and the GRC at the Second level at the PMO and channels, through which the customers can lodge their grievances, and the list of members of the GRC.
- 24. The PMO ES Specialist will make regular reviews and additions to the SEP during Project preparation and implementation, prior to the start and completion of construction activities, during construction in order to determine:
 - •the forms of engagement and the means of disclosure with respect to the various stakeholders:
 - how often it is necessary to conduct consultations;
 - how adequately the incoming appeals and complaints are handled;
 - •whether the identified stakeholders remain relevant and the extent to which planned activities need to be reduced or expanded.

1. Project Background and Description

25. The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan is preparing for a proposed investment loan from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to finance the project "Reconstruction of the Local Roads Network in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm". The AIIB has provided a loan for project preparation in accordance with the General

- Procurement Notice issued on September 27, 2019. The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan intends to use part of the loan funds for consulting services.
- 26. In August 2024 the Consultant (JV Rhythm Plus and Ekostandart Ekspert) was assigned by the Client to provide the services for preparation of ESMPF for the Reconstruction of the Local Roads Network Project in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm regions.
- 27. The Project implementation will be 5 years through two phases, first Khorzm, then Karakalpakstan.
- 28. Planned activities under the proposed AIIB-financed Project include investments in reconstruction 516,1 km of local roads in the Republic of Karakalpakstan (encompassing 23 road sections spanning 328,1 km across 14 districts) and in the Khorezm Region (16 road sections covering 188 km across 9 districts). Additionally, the Project includes capacity building activities for the PMO and the development of a digital geospatial platform and Women and Youth Empowerment Program.
- 29. The Project aims to enhance connectivity among communities by integrating specific local roads into both international and regional road networks. This integration will grant local communities improved access to vital social services and promote economic development. This initiative will significantly contribute to the creation of a reliable and secure internal and regional transportation network within the regions.
- 30. The Project consists of three components:

Component 1. Reconstruction of the Local Roads in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm. This component focuses on the reconstruction of local roads in the Republic of Karakalpakstan and the Khorezm region. The reconstruction works include pavement reconstruction, bridge repair and construction, drainage improvements, and the installation of road safety measures such as signs, barriers, pedestrian crossings, and bus stops. Where necessary, sidewalks will be added to improve pedestrian safety.

Climate resilience measures, such as the use of durable pavement materials and enhanced drainage systems to cope with higher temperatures and seasonal flooding, will be integrated. No capacity expansion is planned, and road reconstruction will remain within the existing corridors.

The Project also includes two years of road maintenance to ensure sustainability and aligns with the Government's strategy to involve the public sector in road maintenance. Timely maintenance will help mitigate damage from extreme weather due to climate change, enhancing the climate resiliency of the roads.

Additionally, the component will fund the hiring of a Construction Supervision Consultant to oversee the entire construction process, including the review of climate-resilient measures to ensure proper adaptation and mitigation efforts are in place, as well as the Road Safety Audit (RSA) in overseeing compliance with contractual obligations and ensuring quality and safety standards. There are three sub-components:

<u>Sub-component 1.1.</u> Reconstruction Works of the Local Road Network in the Republic of Karakalpakstan

<u>Sub-component 1.2.</u> Reconstruction Works of the Local Road Network in Khorezm Region

Sub-component 1.3. Construction Supervision Consultancy

Component 2. Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building. This component will support RC's efforts to operationalize the PMO to ensure the quality implementation of

the Project. This component will also support institutional strengthening and capacity building for PMO, financial audit and other operational costs of the PMO.

Component 3. Development of Digital Geospatial Platform and Women and Youth Empowerment Program. There are two sub-components:

Sub-component 3.1. Development of Digital Geospatial Platform

The objective of this sub-component is to create a sophisticated, web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) platform that serves multiple purposes:

Provide an interactive, online tool for construction supervision, enabling real-time monitoring of project implementation, and generating progress and financial reports with visualizations

Support the evaluation of social and economic benefits derived from improved connectivity, including enhanced access to healthcare, education, and tourism facilities, and the increase in public facilities accessible to the community.

Visualize climate vulnerability and risks affecting each road section to be rehabilitated, while tracking the implementation of climate resilience measures.

Streamline grievance registration and monitoring, allowing PMO, supervision consultants, and RC to manage incoming complaints, generate alerts, and track responses in real-time.

Sub-component 3.2. Women and Youth Empowerment Program

This sub-component focuses on fostering social and economic inclusion, particularly for women and youth, by leveraging the Project's interventions. Key activities to be implemented by the PMO include:

- Conducting a scoping study and skills needs assessment to identify potential business and livelihood opportunities for women in the surrounding areas.
- Developing a women's entrepreneurship program based on the needs assessment, along with participant selection criteria and a list of potential participants.
- Identifying potential sources of grant financing for women entrepreneurs.
- Providing training on climate resilience and road maintenance, targeting residents in Project-affected areas, with a special focus on women and youth.
- Organizing engaging road safety awareness programs for young people, incorporating educational materials and campaigns on traffic rules and pedestrian safety.
- 31. The Road Committee (RC) is is a separate entity under the MOT of the Republic of Uzbekistan and serves as the Project Implementing Entity (PIE). responsible for overall project coordination with government agencies and high-level decision-making authorities to ensure timely implementation, and for liaison with AIIB and other development partners.
- 32. Avtoyulinvest Agency (AYA) as a department under RC, manages the Project's general management and implementation, including progress monitoring, procurement supervision, and works plan review. RC has established a Project Management Office (PMO) under AYA. To date, a Project Coordinator, a Procurement Specialist, and an ES Specialist have been hired in the PMO. Upon loan effectiveness, PMO will be transformed into a full-fledged PMO by AYA. The PMO will be responsible for managing

- the day-to-day project implementation activities, including ensuring the ES compliance of the Project.
- 33. The Project is proposed to be supported by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB, or the Bank). The Project has been proposed Category "B" in accordance with AIIB's Environmental and Social Policy due to the limited number of potentially adverse environmental and social (ES) impacts, which will be limited to the Project area and can be managed using conventional ES risk management. The Project applies of Environmental and Social Standard (ESS) 1 Environmental and Social Assessment and Management and ESS 2 Involuntary Resettlement (which includes possible land acquisition).
- 34. **Project Area of Influence.** According to the AIIB Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), an area of influence (AoI) includes the territory likely to be affected by the project components including permanent and temporary facilities, its ancillary aspects, and unplanned developments. The Project AoI on this stage will be the twenty three project districts. In Karakalpakstan Republic in the Kanlykul, Kegeyli, Takhtakupyr, Shumanai, Khujayli, Amurdarya, Beruniy, Turtkul, Ellikkala, Chimbay,Nukus, Karauzak, Kungrad, Muynak districts and Bagat, Gurlan,Koshkupir, Urgench,, Khiva, Khazarasp, Shavat, Yangiarik, Yangibazar districts in Khorezm region, therefore the number of project stakeholders is large and includes all project impacted settlements and organizations located in the above mentioned project districts.
- 35. The existing roads in Karakalpakstan being repaired, spanning 328.1 km, are categorized within the III and V technical categories. More than half of the roads pass through populated areas. The width of the existing roadbed mainly ranges from 5-9 m. Nearly all sections of the existing roadway of the roads being designed have longitudinal and transverse cracks, ruts, subsidence, waves, breakages, fading, flaking, potholes, and shifts.
- 36. The project involves the dismantling (milling) of the existing surface, and the construction of a road structure. Major repairs or complete replacement of bridge structures are planned. For the regulation and safety of road traffic, the installation of signs and indicators, signal posts, barrier blocks, markings, street lighting in populated areas, sidewalks, and bus stops are provided.
- 37. The overall lengths of the sections for the major repair 328.1 km long, road sections are into 14 districts in Karakalpakstan as follows:
 - Road sections Amurdarya 23 km
 - Road sections Beruniy 32 km
 - Road sections Chimbay- 20 km
 - Road sections Turtkul- 5 km
 - Road sections Kegeyli 12 km
 - Road sections Nukus- 16 km
 - Road sections Taxtako'pir- 15 km
 - Road sections Ellikkala- 36 km
 - Road sections Shumanay-10 km
 - Road sections Karauzyak-20 km
 - Road sections Kanlikul 57 km
 - Road sections Kungrad 57.1 km
 - Road sections Muynak 15 km
 - Road sections Khojayli- 10 km

The map of existing roads of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and location of project area are provided in **Figure 1**.

- 38. **The existing roads in Khorezm region** undergoing repair over a stretch of 188 km fall into the III and IV technical categories. More than half of these roads pass through populated areas.
- 39. The width of the existing roadway ranges from 5 9 m, with shoulders being 1.0 2.0 m wide. The current road surface is made of a petroleum-mineral mixture with a thickness of 3 24 cm. On all sections of the existing roadway of the planned roads, there are longitudinal and transverse cracks, as well as networks of cracks, ruts, subsidence, waves, breaks, discoloration, peeling, potholes, and shifts.
- 40. The project includes the construction of a road surface. A major overhaul (17 units) and complete replacement of bridge structures (77 units) are planned. To ensure regulation and safety of road traffic, the project includes signs and indicators, signal posts, fencing blocks, markings, street lighting in populated areas, sidewalks, and bus stops with shade canopies.
- 41. The overall lengths of the sections for the major repair 233 km long, road sections were divided into 9 lots in Khorezm region as follows:
 - Road sections Bagat 14 km
 - Road sections Gurlan 19 km
 - Road sections Koshkupir 35 km
 - Road sections Urgench 41.5 km
 - Road sections Khiva 21 km
 - Road sections Khazarasp 14 km
 - Road sections Shavat 13.5 km
 - Road sections Yangiarik 19 km
 - Road sections Yangibazar 11 km

The map of existing roads of the Khorezm Region and location of project area are provided in **Figure 2**.

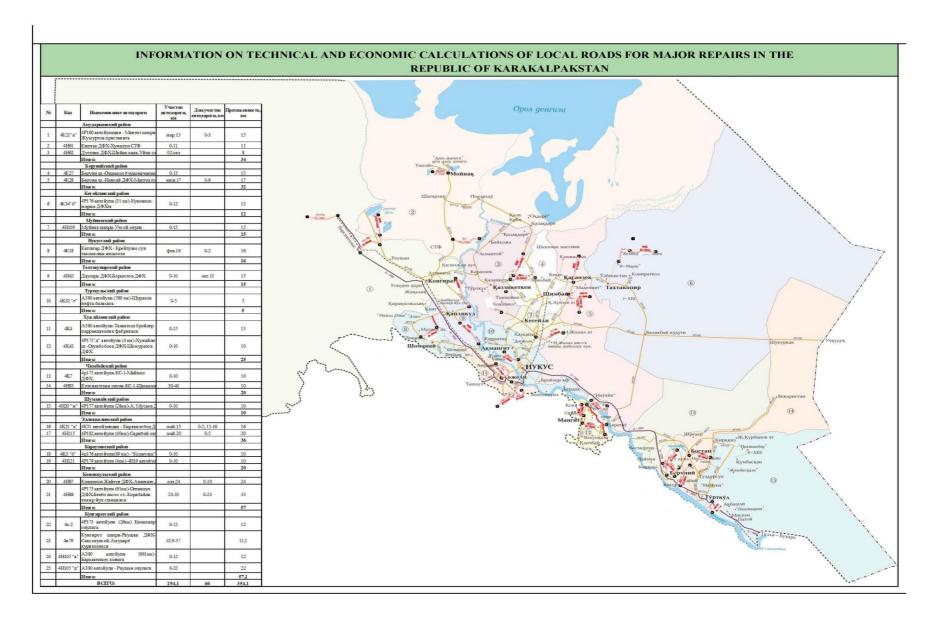


Figure 1: Existing roads of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and location of project area

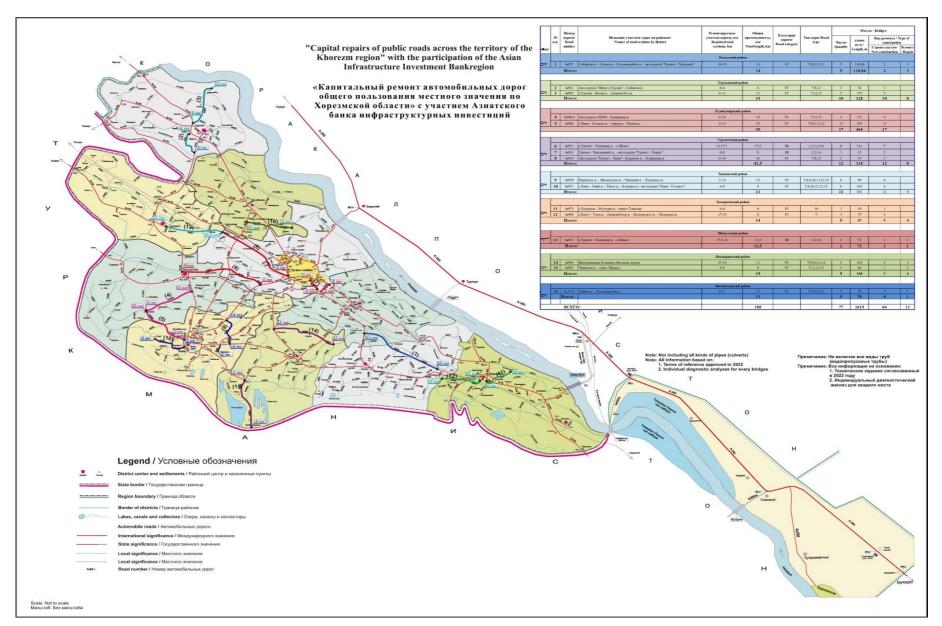


Figure 2: Existing roads of the Khorezm Region and location of project area

2. Objectives of Stakeholder Engagement

- 42. Stakeholder Engagement Plan (hereinafter referred to as the SEP) prepared as part of the Environmental and Social Management Planning Framework for the project "Reconstruction of the Local Roads Network in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm (hereinafter ESMPF) in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm region (hereinafter Project).
- 43. The purpose of the SEP is to ensure effective management of stakeholder engagement activities at various stages of Project implementation. The SEP is developed taking into account the requirements of the national legislation, as well as in accordance with the international requirements of the AIIB.
- 44. The objectives of the SEP are to:
- Ensure a systematic approach to identifying stakeholders and building and maintaining constructive relationships with them, particularly those affected by the project;
- Assess the level of stakeholder interest and support for the project, and to ensure that stakeholder input can be incorporated into project design and environmental and social performance;
- Promote and ensure effective and inclusive engagement with project affected parties throughout the project life cycle on issues that potentially affect them;
- Timely disclosure of relevant project information on environmental and social risks and impacts to stakeholders in an understandable, accessible and appropriate manner and format;
- Provide project-affected parties with accessible and inclusive means to raise questions and address grievances and to enable them to respond to grievance.
- 45. During the course of the Project, the SEP may be reviewed and updated as necessary, for example, if design decisions change or new stakeholders are identified.

3. Regulations and Requirements

3.1 National Requirements

- 46. Public engagement and disclosure of information begins at the earliest stages of Project planning and is regulated as part of the national environmental impact assessment process (hereinafter referred to as the EIA). The EIA procedure in Uzbekistan is regulated by the following legislative acts:
- Law of the RUz "On Nature Protection" No. 754-XII dated on 09/12/1992;
- Law of the RUz "On Environmental Expertise" No. 73-II3 dated on 25/05/2000;
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers "On Further Improvement of Environmental Impact Assessment Mechanism" dated on 07/09/2020;
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the RUz, "On approval of the Regulations on the state environmental expertise" No. 541 dated on 07/09/2020 (hereinafter referred to as – Regulation on SEE).

- 47. The EIA procedure is subject to State Environmental Expertise (SEE). This is the process of establishing the environmental compliance of an economic activity object and determining the adequacy of the environmental impact assessment conducted by the State Unitary Enterprise (SUE) "Center for State Environmental Expertise" or the regional offices of the SEE of the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as the Ministry of Ecology) at both national and regional levels, depending on the project category. The SEE provides for four categories of economic activities, ranging from Category I (high risk) to Category VI (local impact). In accordance with the applicable requirements, the Project is categorized as Category I. The State Environmental Expertise of the EIA of economic activities belonging to Category I of environmental impact is carried out by the SUE "Center of State Environmental Expertise".
- 48. According to the Regulation on SEE, environmental impact assessment is a procedure that includes three stages of EIA: (i) the project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS, at the planning stage before financing), (ii) an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS, additional studies and analyses may be recommended, provided before approval of the feasibility study), (iii) a Statement of Environmental Consequences of Environmental Impact (SEC, the final step at the stage of commissioning). Category VI projects submit only the project Environmental Impact Statement to the regional offices of the SEE of the Ministry of Ecology. "Regulations on the procedure for holding public hearings of environmental impact assessment projects", (Annex No. 3, DCM of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 541 dated on 07/09/2020) regulates the procedure for holding public hearings on proposed, planned or ongoing activities related to a high risk of environmental impact (hereinafter referred to as Category I) and an average risk of impact (hereinafter referred to as Category II).
- 49. A summary of the non-technical nature of the proposed, planned or ongoing economic activity is submitted for public hearings, including:
- brief description of the activity;
- review of options for technological solutions and solutions for the sites of the planned activity;
- brief assessment of the existing environmental and socio-economic conditions;
- brief description of the sources and types of negative impacts on the environment associated with the project implementation;
- forecast and assessment of possible changes in the state of the environment and socio-economic conditions;
- forecast and assessment of possible design emergencies;
- measures to prevent, minimize and/or offset adverse impacts;
- assessment of possible significant transboundary impacts (if applicable).
- 50. Also, public hearings can be held on existing activities of I and II impact categories in case of legitimate complaints from individuals or legal entities.
- 51. Public hearings imply equal rights for everyone to express their reasoned opinion on the issue under discussion based on the study of documentary information related to the issue under discussion and not containing confidential information.
- 52. The participants of the public hearings are:

- Stakeholders:
- Non-state non-profit organizations;
- Citizens' self-governance bodies;
- Mass media (hereinafter referred to as Media)
- Representatives of authorized bodies on ecology and environmental protection participate in public consultations as observers.
- The organizers of public hearings are district (city) khokimiyats.
- 53. The results of the public hearing are documented in the protocol of the public hearing, which is signed by the chairman and the secretary.
- 54. One copy of the protocol is provided to the client within one working day, the second copy remains with the organizer of the public hearing.
- 55. Information about the conducted public consultation, with a copy of the minutes attached, is sent by the organizer of the public consultation for information to the territorial bodies of the Ministry of Ecology.
- 56. As a result of the public hearing, a decision may be made on public support for the proposed or planned economic activity in the territory under consideration or on the refusal of public support for the proposed or planned economic activity in the territory under consideration.
- 57. Public hearing is considered competent only if at least ten representatives of stakeholders participate in it.
- 58. The Client conducted public consultations and hearings during the development phase of the SEP. During the public hearings with the participation of the population, issues of the implementation of the planned project were discussed and relevant presentations were made on the technological process and the impact of the power plant on the environment, as well as social benefits for residents of the area where the facility is located.
- 59. There were no objections from residents living near the combined cycle steam and gas power plant to the construction and operation of this power plant in the designated area.
- 60. Considering that the existing approach to public consultations in Uzbekistan does not require the involvement of the general public and is often limited to consultations with government authorities, the basis for planning stakeholder participation and disclosure of information about the Project is based on best industry international practice and applicable international requirements.

3.2 International Requirements

3.2.1 AIIB Environmental and Social Framework

61. The project is being financed by AIIB and therefore its Environmental and Social Framework will apply to the project.

3.2.1.1 Environment and Social Policy

62. The objective of this overarching policy is to facilitate achievement of these development outcomes, through a system that integrates sound environmental and

social management into Projects. The overarching policy comprises Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), and Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and Environmental and Social Exclusion List (ESEL). The ESP sets out mandatory requirements for the Bank and its Clients relating to identification, assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts associated with Projects supported by the Bank.

3.2.1.2 Environmental and Social Standards

- 63. The environmental and social standards (ESSs) set out more detailed mandatory environmental and social requirements, as described below.
- 64. Environmental and Social Standard 1 (ESS 1). The ESS 1 aims to ensure the environmental and social soundness and sustainability of Projects and to support the integration of environmental and social considerations into the Project decision-making process and implementation. ESS 1 is applicable if the Project is likely to have adverse environmental risks and impacts or social risks and impacts (or both). The scope of the environmental and social assessment and management measures are proportional to the risks and impacts of the Project. ESS 1 provides for both quality environmental and social assessment and management of risks and impacts through effective mitigation and monitoring measures during the course of Project implementation. The ESS 1 defines the detailed requirements of the environmental and social assessment to be carried out for any project to be financed by the Bank.
- 65. Environmental and Social Standard 2 (ESS 2). The ESS 2 is applicable if the Project's screening process reveals that the Project would involve Involuntary Resettlement (including Involuntary Resettlement of the recent past or foreseeable future that is directly linked to the Project). Involuntary Resettlement covers physical displacement (relocation, loss of residential land or loss of shelter) and economic displacement (loss of land or access to land and natural resources; loss of assets or access to assets, income sources or means of livelihood) as a result of: (a) involuntary acquisition of land; or (b) involuntary restrictions on land use or on access to legally designated parks and protected areas. It covers such displacement whether such losses and involuntary restrictions are full or partial, permanent or temporary. The ESS 2 defined detailed requirements of resettlement planning of the projects involving involuntary resettlement.
- 66. Environmental and Social Standard 3 (ESS 3). The ESS 3 is applicable if Indigenous Peoples are present in, or have a collective attachment to, the proposed area of the Project, and are likely to be affected by the Project. The term Indigenous Peoples is used in a generic sense to refer to a distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees: (a) self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others; (b) collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the Project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories; (c) customary cultural, economic, social or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and (d) a distinct language, often different from the official language of the country or region. In considering these characteristics, national legislation, customary law and any international conventions to which the country is a party may be considered. A group that has lost collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the Project area because of forced severance remains eligible for coverage, as an Indigenous People, under ESS 3. The ESS 3 defines the detailed requirements of People

- planning, in case such groups are present in the project area and are likely to be affected by the project.
- 67. The Project triggers not only the local environmental and social laws and regulations, but also the ESP and ESSs of AIIB. Under the scope of the Project, ESS 1: Environmental and Social Assessment and Management and ESS 2: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement will be applicable. Indigenous Peoples (ESS 3) is not be triggered under the Project scope.

4. Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities

- 68. The project is currently in the preparation stage, and the detail design for the construction works has not yet been completed. This means that the Government and project preparation team are currently in the process of conducting meetings with project stakeholders to discuss and finalize the project's design. This is a crucial step in ensuring that all stakeholders are aligned and that the project can proceed smoothly once construction begins.
- 69. These meetings are essential for obtaining input and feedback from the local beneficiaries, as they will be directly impacted by the project. By involving these organizations in the design process, the Government and project preparation team can ensure that the final project design considers any specific requirements or considerations that may be unique to the local road infrastructure. This collaborative approach helps to minimize potential issues or conflicts that could arise during the construction phase.
- 70. After the completion and approval of the detail design, the PMO proceeds to prepare a non-technical summary and organize public hearings. This non-technical summary will provide a clear and easily understandable overview of the project for the general public. It will outline the key aspects of the project, its potential impact, and the benefits it will bring to the community.
- 71. The public hearings will serve as an opportunity for the community to voice their opinions, concerns, and ask questions about the project. This process ensures that the public has a chance to participate in the decision-making process and provides a platform for open dialogue between the project team and the community. By actively engaging with the public, the project team can address any potential issues or misunderstandings, ultimately leading to a more informed and transparent decision-making process.
- 72. The Consultant prepared and submitted draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) with proposed record templates. The centralized record will serve as a valuable resource for tracking the various interactions and engagements with stakeholders throughout the project's lifecycle, ensuring that all pertinent information is documented and easily accessible for reference and analysis. Regular updates to this database will be essential for maintaining an accurate and comprehensive record of stakeholder engagement efforts, enabling the project team to effectively track progress, identify trends, and make informed decisions based on the insights gathered from these engagements.
- 73. Identification of Project stakeholders was initiated at the stage of site visit and Inception report based on the results of the inspection of the site and adjacent areas, desktop studies and initial consultations with PMO and Bank specialists.
- 74. The Consultant has conducted series of meetings with identified stakeholders at the project area level. At the first stage in August 2024, during the first site visit the

Consultants conducted meetings with the regional and district branches of RC, the road maintenance operators in the project area. During the meetings, the Consultant introduced the project goals and planned activities. The main concerns and questions raised by the authorities' included inquiries about the project timeline, detailed project design and coverage, proposed road sections.

75. During the ESMPF preparation on September 18-24, 2024 the Consultant conducted 11 public consultations and a focus group discussion in districts located within project influence area. Two Social Safeguards Specialists and Gender Specialist 3 of the Consultant separately conducted public consultations and covered Makhallas where proposed project will be implemented. The public consultations in total hosted 120 participants, 56 men and 64 women. The minutes of public consultation meetings, results of question-answer session, list of attendees and photo materials are separately presented in Annex 3.

Table 1 Summary Consultations have been carried out during the preparation of ESMPF

No	Date	Stateholders (NGOs,Project Affected people (PAP), Makhalla Leaders,Local Athorities, Businesses)	Location/Consult ation type	No of attendees Male/Fema le	Summary of meeting	Stakeholder concerns and questions raised during the meeting
1.	September 18, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District – Ellikkala Makhalla:Sarabi – FGD and consultations	6/2	Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Control the movement of heavy vehicles, road safety, job opportunities during construction period
2.	September 20, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District – Hodjeyli Makhalla:Mustaqilli k–FGD and consultations	6/9	Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Development of public transportation, organization of roadside trade points, job opportunities during construction period
3.	September 20, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District – Hodjeyli Makhalla:Mustaqilli k–FGD and consultations	0/11	Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Road accidents, development of public transportation, job opportunities during construction period
4.	September 24, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District – Qorauzak Makhalla: Berdah– FGD and consultations	10/0	Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Control the movement of heavy vehicles, road safety, job opportunities during construction period
5.	September	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District –	0/8	Socio-economic status	Road accidents,

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			consultations		activities information, risks and impacts during	objects, job opportunities
10.	September 20, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District –Biruni Makhalla: Lolazor– FGD and consultations	8/3	Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project	Development of sidewalks, signs, access to social
9.	September 19, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District –Khiva Makhalla: Mehnatguli–FGD and consultations	4/6	Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Development of public transportation, job opportunities during construction period
8.	September 19, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District –Khiva 0/8 Makhalla: Mehnatgulee–FGD and consultations		Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Development of public transportation, organization of roadside trade points, access to the property
7.	September 19, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District –Khiva Makhalla: Ok yop– FGD and consultations		Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Road safety, job opportunities during construction period
6.	September 18, 2024	PAP, Makhalla leaders,athorities	District –Khiva 15/3 Makhalla: Pirnahos–FGD and consultations		Socio-economic status of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	Access problem (houses, business, schools), development of public transportation, job opportunities during construction period
	24, 2024	DAD Makhalla	Qorauzak Makhalla: Berdah– FGD and consultations		of Affected people, social problems in makhallas, Project activities information, risks and impacts during construction period	development of public transportation, job opportunities during construction period

76. The public consultation agenda provided the participants with the brief description of activities related to project. The specialists also discussed with residents the process of informing of the project implementation, the grievance redresses mechanism,

- social problems related to the poor condition of the road infrastructure, employment, and road safety.
- 77. During these consultations and focus group meetings special focus was made to the benefits and rules of application Grievance Redress Mechanism for lodging appeals, proposals, and complaints that will be addressed by grievance Redress Commission members to ensure smooth and time-consuming resolution of complaints and grievances raised at any phase of the project life cycle.
- 78. The public consultations went smoothly in friendly environment. The participants were encouraged to ask any question they would want to hear the answer for. The Social Safeguards Specialists of the Consultant invited the representatives of local government, chairperson of relevant Makhallas to open the meeting and make the introductory speech.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

79. Project PMO will assist and collaborate with the project stakeholders for implementation of this SEP and the Project grievance redress mechanism (GRM) during the construction and operation phase. The roles and responsibilities of the Project Team in terms of implementation of this SEP as well as the Project GRM during the construction phase are provided in Table 2.

Table 2 Roles and responsibilities during SEP implementation (construction phase)

Team Member	Roles and Responsibilities				
Project Management Office					
Manager PMO	 Ensures the implementation of SEP. Analyses the requirements of the ESMP and ensures the implementation of requirements by the Contractor and sub-contractors, including engagement with stakeholders. Ensures fulfilment of all applicable national legislative and permitting requirements in the Project. Ensures adequate resources are allocated for the implementation of the Project SEP through the Project life-cycle. Ensures the Contractor and sub-contractors are fully aligned with the SEP through contractual requirements as relevant. Ensures incorporation of the SEP requirements to the contracts/agreements made with the Contractor, sub-contractors and suppliers. Ensures required financial allocations are in place for effective implementation of SEP. 				
Environmental and Social Specialist -PMO	 Ensure compliance of Project's social performance (including implementation of measures/actions related to stakeholder engagement, grievance and feedback management) with Project Standards. Ensure effective and periodic communication with the external stakeholders during the construction phase. In coordination with the CSC social specialist, ensure all Project personnel (direct and contracted) receives trainings on the implementation ofthe internal and external grievance and feedback mechanism developed for the Project (e.g. how to submit internal grievances and feedback, how to manage external grievances and feedback, etc.) at the time of employment. Ensure community grievances and feedback are registered and responded as per the Project SEP and reported to PMO Manager. Support HSE Contractor Specialist in the management of internal grievances andfeedback as required. 				
Construction Supervisor Consultant (CSC)	 Assist PMO in ensuring safeguard compliance of civil works – with particular emphasis on the monitoring of implementation of ESMPs and SEP through the Contractors SSESMP and related aspects of the project. 				

	 CSC shall retain the use of Social Specialist, both national and international, to ensure that the Contractors are compliant with his environment and social obligations. In coordination with the PMO ES specialist, ensure all Project personnel (direct and contracted) receives trainings on the implementation ofthe internal and external grievance and feedback mechanism developed for the Project (e.g., how to submit internal grievances and feedback, how to manage external grievances and feedback, etc.) at the time of employment. Provides a short training program to the PMO and PMOs safeguard person and Contractors E&S specialists prior to the start of construction to develop their knowledge and understanding of the environmental, social, health and safety
0	aspects of the Project.
Contractor	
Project Manager	Coordinates stakeholder engagement activities regarding E&S issues in consultation with the Project Social team.
Social Expert	 Reports to the Project Manager in communication, establishment. implementation and coordination of the SSESMP in terms of social issues; Checks social-related documentation (i.e., plans and procedures) under subcontractors' responsibility whether they meet the Project commitments. Becomes a part of stakeholder engagement activities regarding social issues. Reports to the Project Manager in communication, establishment, implementation and coordination of the SSESMP in terms of social issues; Ensures implementation of the SEP in line with the Project commitments; Equip all site personnel with the adequate training on the Project SEP; Assists the PMO ES specialist for resolution of grievances; Assists the PMO ES specialist in the disclosure of the grievance mechanism to local communities appropriately; Develops a follow-up grievance register and keeps up-to-date; Assists the PMO ES specialist in the organization of meetings with theProject stakeholders; Records stakeholder engagement activities and report to the PMO ES specialist as defined in the SEP;
	Manages and maintains stakeholder consultation records.

6. Stakeholder Identification and Analysis

- 80. Stakeholders are typically categorized into two main groups based on their level of involvement and impact on a project. The first group includes project affected stakeholders, who are directly/indirectly impacted by the project and may experience changes to their environment, livelihood, or well-being as a result of its implementation. The second group consists of other interested stakeholders, who may have a vested interest in the project but are not directly affected by its implementation. Nevertheless, for the purposes of effective, tailored, and inclusive engagement, stakeholders of the project can be divided into the following three core categories:
- Project affected stakeholders persons, groups and other entities within the Project Area of Influence that are directly/indirectly impacted (actually or potentially) by the project and/or have been identified as most susceptible to change associated with the project, and who need to be closely engaged in identifying impacts and their significance, as well as in decision-making on mitigation and management measures.
- Other interested stakeholders individuals/groups/entities that may not experience direct impacts from the Project but who consider or perceive their

interests as being affected by the project and/or who could affect the project and the process of its implementation in some way. These stakeholders could include government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), or other groups with a general interest in the project's outcomes. While their level of impact may not be as immediate as project affected stakeholders, their input and support can still be valuable in shaping the project's design and implementation.

- Vulnerable/Disadvantage groups or persons persons who may be
 disproportionately impacted or further disadvantaged by the project(s) as compared
 with any other groups due to their vulnerable status, and that may require special
 engagement efforts to ensure their equal representation in the consultation and
 decision-making process associated with the project.
- 81. Stakeholder identification is conducted based on available primary and secondary data information, a review of available Project documentation, input from the Project consultants, as well as being informed by the results of site visits. The stakeholder list will be continuously updated throughout the life of the Project.
- 82. The following list of key stakeholders have been identified and are presented in the Table 1 3 below:

Table 3 Identified Project Stakeholders

Stakeholder Groups	Direct/Indirect	Description of the Stakeholder
Project affected stakeholders		
Local Communities in the Project area		The local communities are expected to directly benefits from the project through improvements to the local roads, facilities, road safety, access to material and social resources. Local community residents are potential source as workforce for implementation of the project activities. Local communities within the project influence area to be affected by construction and reconstruction works and activities of the project. The activities associated with the project will directly influence the daily lives of the impacted residents.
Local companies and organizations inthe Project area		These include private businesses interested in improving the condition of roads and structures, farms that can use reconstructed roads to transport goods and workers, enterprises that can improve logistics by reducing transport costs and time spent on transportation or open new businesses (for example, trucking, public transport, taxis).
Makhalla Leaders	Direct	This stakeholder is an institution holding traditional power. It is headed by a chief/ chairman and play an important role in Uzbek community.
Organizations and/or individuals whose assets may be impacted in connection with project activities	Direct	These include organizations (private farms, other entities) or individuals whose assets might be impacted due to project activities (both formal and informal owners).
Other Interested stakeholders		
Road Committee (RC)		Acts as the Executing Agency (EA) responsible for overall project coordination with government agencies and high-level decision-making authorities.

Avtoyulinvest" Agency (AYA)	Direct	Acts as the Implementing agency and is responsible for the implementation of the project, including the
Main Road Department of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Region,	Direct	execution of works and overall management. Subordinate organization of RC, the owners of the project andresponsible for project implementation, and local roads exploitation after project completion.
Local Government Organizations: Cabinet of Ministries ofKarakalpakstan Republic; Khokimiat of Khorezm region, Ministry of Foreign and TradeAffairs; Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Uzbekistan; The Agency for Strategic Reforms. Project District Khokimiats; Project District Land Cadaster Offices; Project District branches of the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change(MEEPCC); Sanitary- Epidemiological Peace and Public Health Service of Karakalpakstan, Khorezm Region and district branches; Karakalpakstan Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations. Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations of Uzbekistan	Indirect Indirect Indirect Indirect Direct Direct Direct Indirect Indirect	 Interested in developing of socio-economic situation in theregion; Interested in business development in the region; Approvals for and assistance in Project activities within each of the authorities' remit (land issues, road conditions, energy, investmentsupport, etc.) Potential assistance in interaction with other authorities and localpopulation/organizations Assistance in monitoring of appliance with local labor andsanitary regulations.
Local and regional Construction Companies	Direct	Construction Companies interested to participate in the bidding forproject implementation
Workforce		Project employees, contractors, and their workers engaged in the project construction activities.
International Lenders/ International Organizations: AIIB Regional and Local	Indirect Indirect	Lenders are interested in the successful implementation of the projectwhile applying environmental and social requirements. Interested in monitoring the impact of the project, monitoring theapplication with E&S requirements.
CSOs/NGOs (Women's Committee, Association of Business Women of Uzbekistan, Center for Youth Initiatives and etc.)		monitoring theapplication with Exo requirements.

Media	Indirect	This refers to news and information media which could influencepublic opinion.
Vulnerable/Disadvantage		
Groups or Persons		
Unemployed people in project area. Women headed families, families with many children (more than 5), Low-income families, disabled persons, elderly people with nobody to care etc.	Direct	Groups or Individuals who may be disproportionately impacted or further disadvantaged by the project(s) as compared with any other groups due to their vulnerable status, and that may require special engagement efforts to ensure their equal representation in the consultation and decision-making process associated with the project.

6.1 Stakeholder Mapping Analysis

- 83. Stakeholder Analysis is the process of identifying the individuals or groups that are likely to affect or be affected by a proposed Project and sorting them according to their impact on the Project and the impact the Project will have on them. This information is then used to assess the way the interests of the stakeholders should be addressed in the Project plan, policy, program, or other action.
- The purpose of a stakeholder mapping is to:
- Study the profile of the stakeholders identified and their roles for the Project;
- Understand each group's specific issues, concerns as well as expectations from the Project that each group retains;
- Gauge their influence on the Project or the impact of the Project on them;
- Understand their vulnerabilities; and
- Understand the most effective means to communicate with the different stakeholder groups.
- 84. The significance of a stakeholder group is categorized considering the magnitude of impact of the Project on the stakeholder or degree of influence (power, proximity) of a stakeholder group on the Project functioning. The significance of the stakeholder group importance for the Project and the requirement for engaging with them is identified as an interaction of the impact and influence. The matrix for significance is depicted in Table 4. and the description the stakeholder analysis and influence are depicted in Table 5 below.

Table 4 Stakeholder Significance and Engagement Requirement

		Likelihood of I	Likelihood of Influence on/ by Stakeholder				
		Low	Medium	High			
Magnitude of Influence/	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible			
Impact	Small	Negligible	<mark>Minor</mark>	Moderate			
	Medium	Minor Minor	Moderate	Urgent			
	Large	Moderate	Urgent	Urgent			

Table 5 Stakeholder Analysis & Influence

Nature of Influence	Implication	
High Influence	High Influence implies a high degree of influence of the stakeholder on the Projectin terms of participation and decision making or high priority to engage with the stakeholder.	
Medium Influence	Medium Influence implies a moderate level of influence and participation of thestakeholder in the Project as well as a priority level to engage the stakeholder which is neither highly critical nor are insignificant in terms of influence.	
Low Influence	Low Influence implies a low degree of influence of the stakeholder on the Projectin terms of participation and decision-making or low priority to engage that stakeholder.	

- 85. The intermediary categories of low to medium or medium to high primarily imply that their influence and importance could vary in that range subject to context specific conditions or also based on the responses of the Project towards the community.
- 86. The coverage of stakeholders includes any person, group, institution, or organization that is likely to be impacted (directly or indirectly) or may have interest/influence over Project. Though this document has attempted to be inclusive of all categories of stakeholders across the entire Project cycle, it is difficult to identify all potential stakeholders and gauge their level of influence over the entire Project cycle. Therefore, the project owners will revise stakeholder's list and their profiles in a timely manner to ensure applicability for any given period of the Project cycle as shown in Table 6.

Table 6 Stakeholder Profiles and Influence Mapping

Stakeholder Group	Brief Profile of the Stakeholder	Interest of the Stakeholders	Impact of the Project on theStakeholders	Influence of the stakeholder on the Project	Magnitude of Impact/ Influence	Stakeholder Significance
Local Communities	This stakeholder comprises communities residing in the vicinity of the Project area and impacted directly by Project activities	Information about the project site and its potential impacts; Access to quality road infrastructure; Employment opportunities during the Project Construction period; Minimum impacts to the community in case of noise, air and water pollution; and Mechanism for raising grievances or concerns.	The stakeholders can be affected by physical and/or economic displacement, structures impact because of Project activities. The Project will to improve connectivity between communities by integrating selected local roads into the international and state road networks, thereby providing better access to markets, schools, healthcare, and social services for local residents The Project may also lead to an increase in job opportunities and subsequently increase in incomes. Employment opportunities are openly displayed and accessible to local community members.	This stakeholder plays a critical role in the formation of public opinion towards the Project and allowing for the smooth functioning of the Project. The stakeholder group may potentially be engaged as local resources such as skilled/ semi-skilled jobs in the Project facilities.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Large Influence of Stakeholder on Project: Medium	Urgent

Stakeholder Group	Brief Profile of the Stakeholder	Interest of the Stakeholders	Impact of the Project on the Stakeholders	Influence of the stakeholder on the Project	Magnitude of Impact/ Influence	Stakeholder Significance
Makhalla Leaders	This stakeholder is an institution holding traditional power. It is headed by a chief/ chairman and play an important role in Uzbek community.	Having access to relevant information on the Project (e.g., grievances, emergency procedure and management measures); Benefiting from social investment; Training of local population on skill enhancement, in case of opportunities.	The impacts of the Project on this stakeholder group will be in case of potential for social disruptions, between local inhabitants and the working population migrating into the area creates a potential for social disruption.;	This group thus could influence the perception of the community in regard to the Project and its activities.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Medium Influence of Stakeholder on Project: Medium	Moderate
Vulnerable/Di sadvantage Groups or Persons	This stakeholder group refers to the vulnerable group such as Women headed families, families with many children (more than 5), Low-income families, disabled persons, elderly people with nobody to care, Unemployed people in project area etc.	Information about the project site and its potential impacts; Access to quality public services and other community development services; Employment opportunities; Information about project support components for vulnerable people (if any); Mechanism for raising grievances or concerns.	In view of the poor social and economic conditions of the Vulnerable people, the PMO may have to provide engagement avenues for the group; This stakeholder group can benefit from potential employment opportunities and/or project support components.	The influence of this stakeholder group on the Project is limited.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Medium Influence of Stakeholder on Project: Medium	Moderate

Stakeholder Group	Brief Profile of theStakeholder	Interest of the Stakeholders	Impact of the Project on theStakeholders	Influence of the stakeholder on the Project	Magnitude of Impact/ Influence	Stakeholder Significance
Workforce	This stakeholder comprises of Project employees, contractors, and their workers engaged in the project construction activities.	Opportunities for direct employment; Economic benefits such as payment of minimum wages; Training and induction programs; Receiving relevant information on the Project; Working in a safe environment, free of conditions that foster inequality. Mechanism for raising grievances or concerns	The Project provides employment opportunity to this group. The Project may pose health and safety concerns if proper safety measures are not adopted by the workers.	This stakeholder engagement is critical for the smooth implementation of the Project. This group has an important role in formation of public opinion. In case the labour requirements and health and safety measures are not complied with, there may be a risk of conflict and protest which may affect the image of the Project.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Medium Influence of Stakeholder on Project: High	Urgent
Local and regional Construction Companies	This stakeholder group comprised of the contractors to be involved in the Project such as those supplying materials and/or construction.	Economic benefits due to dynamism of regional and municipal economic activity; Receiving information on relevant business opportunities; Sharing of Emergency response and Compliance to E&S requirements; Response to grievance and emergencies raised by the suppliers and contractor; Increased of opportunities for indirect employment.	The Project provides a sustained business opportunity to this group in the area.	This stakeholder group is critical for the smooth functioning and timely implementation of the Project; This group may also play an important role in the formation of public opinion towards the Project. This group will be a stakeholder in the implementation of the benefit sharing plans formulated for the Project.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Small Influence of Stakeholder on Project: Medium	Minor

Stakeholder Group	Brief Profile of theStakeholder	Interest of the Stakeholders	Impact of the Project on the Stakeholders	Influence of the stakeholder on the Project	Magnitude of Impact/ Influence	Stakeholder Significance
Lenders & Investors	This stakeholder group includes investors who may be evaluating investment opportunities into the Project.	E&S compliances; Providing a safe environment for all workers; Adherence to safety protocol; Regular monitoring and reporting.	The impact of the Project on this stakeholder group will primarily pertain to Project's performance.	This stakeholder group's influence on the Project will primarily pertain to the determination of the Project's financial feasibility. In addition to the national rules and regulations, the Project is required to comply with the internal standards of these financial institutions.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Small Influence of Stakeholder on Project: High	Moderate
Government and Regulatory Authorities	This stakeholder group comprised regulatory authorities at the district, state and national level that are responsible for various permits and licenses pertaining to the Project.	Receiving information on Projects (timeline, potential impacts, benefits) Promoting economic development Establishing clear channels of communication Compliance to national laws and requirements.	The impact of the Project on this stakeholder group will be negligible. However, it is expected that the project will abide with all applicable national guidelines, policies and laws.	This stakeholder group is high in priority as this group provides the permits and licenses essential for the functioning of the Project. This stakeholder group can result in Project shut down or stop-work for a few days and/ or penalties and fines being levied on the Project.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Small Influence of Stakeholder on Project: High	Urgent

Stakeholder Group	Brief Profile of the Stakeholder	Interest of the Stakeholders	Impact of the Project on the Stakeholders	Influence of the stakeholder on the Project	Magnitude of Impact/ Influence	Stakeholder Significance
Media	This stakeholder group is comprised of the regional and national press (both print and audiovisual). This stakeholder group can play an extremely important role in the generation of awareness and public opinion towards the Project	Receiving relevant information on the Project (timeline, potential impacts, benefits) to inform the population; Disseminating relevant and attractive information for their audience on Project development.	The impact of the Project on the stakeholder is likely to be extremely limited due to the nature of the Project activities.	The influence of the stakeholder group on the Project is likely to pertain to the opinion formation amongst the local, national and potentially international stakeholders towards the Project. Reporting on the Project's poor environmental and social performance.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Small Influence of Stakeholder on Project: High	Moderate
NGOs/CSOs operating in the area	This stakeholder group comprises of regional, national operating in the sphere of human rights, advocacy and community development.	Receiving information on Projects status; Potential adverse environmental and social impacts; Improvement of public service and economic development.	The impact of the Project on the stakeholder is likely to be limited due to the nature of the Project activities; Establishment of strategic social investment alliances.	The influence of the stakeholder group on the Project is likely to pertain to the opinion formation amongst the local, national and potentially international stakeholders towards the Project.	Impact of Project on Stakeholder: Small Influence of Stakeholder on Project: Medium	Moderate

7. Stakeholder Engagement Program

- 87. The Stakeholder Engagement Program is an important component of the SEP that is expected to help engage all the Project stakeholders. The SEP will also support the engagement of Vulnerable/Disadvantage Groups or Persons that are facing hurdles to take part in the engagement directly for social and economic reasons. It is important to remember that the SEP implementation is a dynamic process, and some stakeholders and their interests might change over time; therefore, the SEP and the Program will be updated accordingly. Stakeholder engagement within the project preparation phase is critical for supporting the project's risk management process, specifically the early identification and avoidance/management of potential impacts (negative and positive) and cost-effective project design.
- 88. Stakeholder engagement is an on-going process throughout the project's life cycle and there are three phases relevant to each selected project investments:
- Project Preparation Phase;
- Construction Phase; and,
- Operation Phase.
- 89. Project Preparation Phase. During the project preparation phase, the focus of engagement is primarily on gathering information and opinions from stakeholders. Engagement activities will therefore include interviews with stakeholder representatives (informal leaders) and key information organizations (communities, authorities, NGOs) using face-to-face meetings, workshops, and smaller focus group meetings.
- 90. Within the overarching project preparation objectives, the specific objectives of engagement during this phase are to:
- Introduce the project and ESMPF process to key stakeholders
- Identify potential impacts and issues that will be covered in subsequent phases
- Further identify stakeholders related to the Project
- Identify and gain access to relevant data for the baseline
- To gather stakeholder opinions on the proposed project and ensure that these opinions are fed into the assessment process
- To gather stakeholder feedback on the development of management and mitigation measures of potential impacts, particularly where stakeholders have a potential role to play in these measures.
- Provide feedback to the stakeholders on the ESMPF and associated management/mitigation measures (disclosure); and,
- Gather stakeholder input on the initial impact assessment and identified mitigation and enhancement measures (consultation).
- 91. During this engagement phase, disclosure and consultation activities will be designed along the following general principles:
- Consultation events and opportunities must be widely and proactively publicized, especially among project affected parties, at least 2-3 weeks prior to any meeting;

- The non-technical summary must be accessible prior to any event to ensure that people are informed of the assessment content and conclusions in advance of the meeting;
- The location and timing of any meeting will be designed to maximize accessibility to project affected stakeholders;
- Information presented will be clear and non-technical, and will be presented in the local language understood by those in the communities;
- Facilitation will be provided to ensure that stakeholders are able to raise their concerns; and
- Issues raised are answered at the meeting or actively followed up.
- 92. **Construction Phase.** To ensure effective consultation with community members during construction of the Project, PMO will establish a project information center at the local districts Khokimiats and at the project site, aiming to disseminate project information to community members and receiving grievances, if any.
- 93. At the project site PMO and Contractors will install notice boards, these notice boards will be regularly updated with the Project information and used to inform community members about project activities, employment opportunities and impact management measures including the grievance mechanism. Noticeboards will also include the grievance/suggestion box, including responsible contact names for additional inquiries.
- 94. **Operation Phase.** After the completion of the construction works and handover process, local road authorities shall become the only responsible entities for SEP implementation, for continuous implementation of GM, and maintain relations with local stakeholders, updating them about project activities and mitigation measures (if any) carried out. This can be done through the publication of annual or quarterly reports, announcements on important events through local mass media (TV, radio, newspapers), updating noticeboards with indication of contacts of responsible staff for further clarifications.
- 95. Proposed strategy for information disclosure for different stakeholder groups and during all project phases is presented in Table 7.
- 96. The project will take special measures to ensure that Vulnerable/Disadvantage Groups or Persons have equal opportunity to access information, provide feedback, or submit grievances. Focus groups dedicated specifically to vulnerable groups may also be envisaged as appropriate. Where necessary (e.g., for minority or migrant population) information will be provided in the language that can be understood by them.
- 97. Convenient venues and small target meetings will be organized for vulnerable groups where they will feel comfortable asking questions and raise issues. Vehicles will be provided for transportation of residents of remote areas to nearest venues of meetings. If required, contacts with medical institutions in project areas will be established to obtain information about marginalized groups and most effective methods of interaction with them. All factors preventing vulnerable groups from participation (for example, language distinctions, unavailability of transport for participation in activities, accessibility of venues where activities take place, physical limitations, insufficient understanding of the consultation process) will be addressed by means of solution of all problematic issues by the consultants.

Table 7 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Project Phase	Consultation - Disclosure Materials	Engagement Method	Timeline/ Frequency	Stakeholder group	Percentage reached	Responsibilities
Project Preparation Phase	Non-Technical Summary Potential impact on local communities andmitigation measures ESMPF, SEP, RPF and GAP Grievance Mechanism	 Flyer or brochure with shortproject description. Presentation and discussionsduring the public meetings. Website publication Announcements on local media (TV, newspaper, socialmedia. Bulletin boards in districtcenters and in affected settlements. 	At least 20 days before the finalization of proposed projectdesign. When draft version of the project design is ready.	Local Communities in the Project area Local companies and organizations Makhalla Leaders Road Committee (RC) Avtoyulinvest " Agency (AYA) Main Road Department of the Republic of Karakalpakst an and Khorezm Region Local Government Organizations AIIB Regional and Local CSOs/NGOs Media Vulnerable/Disad vantage Groups or Persons	Most of the population of local communities through distribution of information materials andposters on bulletin boards	Project PreparationTeam and AYA, and PMO

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Construction Phase	Announcements about construction works and mitigation measures; Traffic management plan; Contractor's GRM Potential impact on local communities and mitigation measures Implement and finalise land acquisition and resettlement (if any) with follow up monitoring of the living standard of those relocated to a new place. Project GRM	Community meetings Poster on community bulletin board Telegram channels Announcements on local TV Website announcements Newsletters, door-to-door leaflets, as appropriate Telephone notification Personal interaction	At least 3 days prior the event (for each road section construction activities), Constant information in the channel	Local Communities in the Project area Local companies and organizations Makhalla Leaders Road Committee (RC) Avtoyulinvest " Agency (AYA) Main Road Department of the Republic of Karakalpakst an and Khorezm Region Local Government Organizations AIIB Regional and Local CSOs/NGOs Media Vulnerable/Disad vantage Groups or Persons Local and regional Construction Companies Workforce	Announcement on local TV will reach 50% of population and poster onbulletin board, telegram channel reaches another percentage of thepopulation	Safeguards specialists of Contractors, action to be steered by PMO Environment and Social Development Specialist

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Operation Phase	Information about operation activities, , potential disruptions inthe services; GRM of Operator	Poster on Bulletin board at the local mahkallas Announcements on Local TV	At least 3 days before the event	Local Communities in the Project area Local companies and organizations Makhalla Leaders Road Committee (RC) Avtoyulinvest "Agency	Announcement on local TV will reach 50% of population and poster onbulletin board reaches another percentage of thepopulation	Regional Manager of Operator
				Leaders Road Committee (RC)		
				" Agency (AYA) Main Road		
				Department of the Republic of Karakalpakst		
				an and Khorezm Region		
				Vulnerable/Disad vantage Groups or Persons		

7.1 Proposed Strategy for Information Disclosure

- 98. The ESMPF and SEP will be available in a public place accessible to the public and local NGOs as well as online. The English, Uzbek and Karakalpak executive summary will be disclosed also. All consultations should be properly documented, (for each consultation: date, venue, participants (by age, sex and any other relevant demographics), matrix of feedback and recommendations, dated photographs etc.) and submitted with the final reports. The information to be disclosed and disclosure methods will vary by location, targeted people, information content, and project stage. The AIIB ESP requires the borrowers to provide relevant E&S assessment information in a timely manner, in an accessible place and in a form and language(s) understandable to the PAPs and other key stakeholders. The E&S information related to the Project will be communicated in line with AIIB requirements in a timely and easy-to-understand manner to the Project Affected Persons and other relevant stakeholders and in an appropriate location to ensure that stakeholders have a say in the design and implementation of the Project.
- 99. All disclosed information will be well documented, and comments and feedback received will be recorded and filed by the relevant project consultants with reporting to the PMO.

7.2 Proposed strategy to incorporate the view of vulnerable/disadvantage groups or persons

- 100. The elderly and disabled may have difficulty obtaining information about the Project online. This stakeholder group may also be subject to restrictions related to their movement due to the physical condition, which may make it difficult to access paper-based documentation and feedback forms. In this regard, such channels of interaction as makhalla committees are selected, where information materials of the Project will be distributed, a dedicated telephone line is organized to collect comments and/or complaints.
- 101. Women living in nearby communities may also be limited in time to participate in consultations and access information. In this regard, information will be available in the makhallas at times convenient for combining with home duties.
- 102. The PMO Environment and Social Specialist will monitor comments received from Vulnerable/Disadvantage Groups or Persons and, if necessary, other methods of involving them in the decision-making process will be suggested. Information about the Project and feedback forms will also be available online so that young people with good access to online resources will be involved in the consultation process.

7.3 Subproject ES Instruments Disclosure

103. Once the draft site-specific ESMPs, including SDDR and RAP if needed, and GAP are prepared, these documents are subject to public consultation. The public consultation meeting on the site-specific ESMPs will include an announcement of the meeting on the AYA's website and local mass media at least two weeks before the public consultation meeting, with a brief description of the project, location, and specific contact details (including telephone numbers). In addition, the E&S team of the CSC, Contractor, in collaboration with the PMO, will make an announcement in the local, district about holding a public consultation meeting by means of a written short booklet together with an invitation to participate in the meeting. Documentation

of the consultations should be submitted to PMO. Versions of the site specific E&S documents in Russian and Uzbek and records of stakeholder consultations should be posted in a public place close to the construction site, as well as on the websites of AYA. For all approved sub-projects, the PMO will ensure that printed copies of the final ESMP including SDDR/RAP and GAP in the local language are available in a public place. Before the final approval of the sub-project, the AYA will also submit to the AIIB the English versions of the ESMP final documents for its own records.

8. Grievance Redress Mechanism

8.1 Objective and scope of the GRM

- 104. The PMO will set up a project-level GRM following the policy requirements of AIIB⁴ and laws of the RUz⁵. The GRM shall respond to the inquires and resolve appeals and complaints of people who believe they have been or are likely to be adversely affected by social and environmental impacts of the project activities, and/or have complaints about the project's information disclosure and public consultation process.
- 105. The project-level GRM shall respond to the inquiries and resolve appeals and complaints of people in prompt, impartial and mutual consensus manner at the project level. This will help to response to the issues of citizens, to track a problem and avoid potential escalation of project affected people's complaints, and risks for delay and complaint related to the costs in the project implementation.
- 106. The appeals/complaints eligibility for handling through the project-level GRM shall meet the following criteria: (i) issues related to the project's social, involuntary resettlement and environmental impacts and performance outcomes, and (ii) issues, related to the project's information disclosure and public consultations process. Appeals/complaints, related to crime, fraud, and corruption issues, will be registered in the grievance logbook, however they are not eligible for handling under the project-level GRM and shall be handled as defined by laws of the RUz and relevant policies of the AIIB.
- 107. The project-level GRM does not override the complainants' rights to demand grievance redress as defined by national legislation. The complainant at one's discretion may choose to seek the complaint consideration through the judicial system of the RUz at any time of the grievance redress process provided hereby.
- 108. At the same time Subcomponent 3.1 of the project ToR included Development of Digital Geospatial Platform. The objective of this subcomponent is to create a sophisticated, web-based GIS platform that serves multiple purposes as well as a streamline grievance registration and monitoring, allowing the Project Management Office, supervision consultants, and the Committee for Roads to manage incoming complaints, generate alerts, and track responses in real-time.

109. The Platform will:

 Provide, advice, register and refer complaints to the road sections for investigation and monitoring, and manage the analysis and reporting of complaints data.

^{4 &}lt;a href="https://www.aiib.org/en/policies-strategies/_download/environment-framework/AIIB-Environmental-and-Social-Framework_ESF-November-2022-final.pdf">https://www.aiib.org/en/policies-strategies/_download/environment-framework/AIIB-Environmental-and-Social-Framework_ESF-November-2022-final.pdf

⁵ The Law of the RUz "On Appeals of individuals and legal entities" No. LRU-378 dated December 3, 2014 (No. LRU-445as amended from 09 November 2017)

- Visualize the residents' complaints regarding the issues arising from the project construction based on the Project Level Grievance Redress Mechanism and Bank's Grievances Mechanism
- Ability for the users to upload a location verified pictures and photos of safety hazards (potholes, missing safety signs etc.) using telegram channels, weblink, application or the like to identify non-compliance with safety requirements.
- Register complaints and refer them to the related department/officer for investigation and response
- Monitoring the progress of investigations to ensure they are dealt with in a professional and timely manner

8.2 Maintain a complaints database and report on complaints management at the PMO level Forms of lodging grievances / appeals

- 110. The following include the forms of lodging grievances / appeals:
- Grievances and appeals can be submitted orally or in written, or in electronic forms;
- Grievances and appeals, received by contact numbers, as well as by telephone "hotline" are taken into account, registered and considered as oral messages;
- Grievances and appeals, received from the Telegram messenger, through the official website or to the official e-mail address are registered in the form of electronic appeals and are considered in the prescribed manner;
- Grievances and appeals can be in the form of statements, suggestions, and complaints.
- Individuals and legal entities can apply individually or collectively.
- Grievances and appeals can be submitted in the state official language and other languages.
- 111. In the grievance or appeal of an individual and / or legal entity, should indicate the surname, name (patronymic, if available) of the individual, information of his / her place of residence and the essence of the appeal, contact person and his/her contact information must be indicated.
- 112. If the complainant wishes to remain anonymous, and grievance or appeal received anonymously, such cases shall be registered and verified. The Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) at Tier 1 evaluates, if it is legitimate according to situation presented in the anonymous grievance or appeal, and act on behalf of the complainant, evaluate and resolve the issue. If the arguments stated in the grievance are not confirmed, a conclusion is drawn up about this, where the reasons of terminating the redress of the current grievance are stated. A conclusion of terminating the grievance redress is confirmed by GRC members, after that the complaint is removed from control.
- 113. It is possible, that anonymous grievances or appeals may become more difficult to consider, resolve the issue and protect the interest of the complainant. Therefore, the complainants, raising anonymous grievances or appeals shall provide sufficient facts and data to enable the GRC to investigate the case. The feedback and decision made, the actions planned and implemented regarding the anonymous grievances and appeals, shall be (i) printed and posted on the information boards of the regional road departments and relevant Khokimiyat, and (ii) send back to the same source, where

- the anonymous grievance or appeal has been received from (e.g. unknown media account), if applicable.
- 114. The GRC members, involved in implementing the GRM, make sure, that confidentiality / anonymity is respected.
- 115. Outcomes of all grievances and appeals, and their resolution process will also be documented in the grievance database and reflected in the project periodic progress reports.

8.3 Institutional Structure of the GRM

- 116. The Avtoyulinvest Agency, through the centralized Project Management Office (PMO), will be responsible for the effective operation of the project-level GRM. The PMO will maintain a database of all received grievances and ensure monitoring, analysis and reporting through project implementation and social and environmental safeguards reports. Other stakeholders of the project, including the Supervision Consultant (Engineer) and the Contractor(s), shall take an active part in resolving grievances and appeals at the site level.
- 117. The Contractor(s) and the Supervision Consultant (Engineer) shall register and report each grievance received at site level to the PMO under the Avtoyulinvest Agency, which will maintain the centralized grievance database and monitor status and resolution.

8.4 Grievance Focal Persons

- 118. The Contractor shall appoint a Grievance Focal Person (GFP) at each project site to receive, register and manage grievances at Tier 1. The Supervision Consultant (Engineer) will assign an E&S staff as a site-level GFP to oversee the Contractor's GRM actions and ensure compliance with the GRM procedure. These site-level GFPs shall forward all grievance records and resolution updates to the PMO GFP at central level.
- 119. The PMO's ES Specialist will serve as the central-level GFP, responsible for maintaining the overall grievance database, coordinating grievance resolution at Tier 2, and reporting on GRM performance to the AIIB.
- 120. The contact details of the site-level GFPs (Contractor and Engineer) as well as the PMO GFP, Tier 1 GRC and Tier 2 GRC members will be disclosed on the Avtoyulinvest Agency's website and in all project information materials.
- 121. Site-level GFPs (Contractor, Engineer) must handle complaints directly and informally when possible. If a grievance cannot be resolved at the site level, it will be escalated to Tier 2, where it will be handled by the PMO-level GRC.

8.5 Grievance Redress Mechanism Description

- 122. A two-tier project-level GRM will be established during the project preparation phase.
- 123. **Tier-1: Local Grievance Redress Committee (GRC).** The Tier 1 GRC will handle complaints at the site level, ensuring quick resolution. It will comprise:
- Supervision Consultant (Engineer) E&S Specialist (Chair);
- Contractor's E&S Specialist or designated Grievance Focal Person (Member);

- PMO Social & Environmental Specialist
- Head of the community (makhalla leader)
- Representative of the community's women committee
- Representative of district Khokimiat,
- Representative of district Road Service organization as a GFP for the subject district.
- Other relevant local stakeholders may be invited if required.
- 124. If necessary, the site-level GRC may invite appropriate technical specialists or refer an issue to the relevant local authorities (e.g., khokimiyat) if it relates to land, resettlement, or other local matters that require official coordination. For standard environmental or social compliance issues, the Contractor and Engineer handle resolution directly.
- 125. Complainants can contact any GRC member. The contact details of the GRC member will be available GRM section in the AYA's website and site-specific ES Instruments. The site-level GRC is responsible for receiving, hearing, and resolving complaints promptly.
- 126. The Tier 1 GRC must decide on the complaint within fifteen (15) days of receipt. If additional study is required, this period may be extended to one month, with notice to the complainant
- 127. If the grievance cannot be resolved at Tier 1, or the complainant is not satisfied with the solution, the case will be escalated to the PMO-Level GRC (Tier 2).
- 128. **Tier-2: PMO Level Grievance Redress Committee.** The Tier 2 will be established under the centralized PMO at Avtoyulinvest Agency, with the following members:
- PMO Project Coordinator Chairperson;
- PMO Social & Environmental Specialist Member & GRM Focal Point;
- Deputy PM or relevant PMO technical specialist Member;
- Chief specialist of Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Region Government department, member;
- Head of the department for the coordination of works on land acquisition and compensation of the Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Region, member;
- Staff of the information service of Main Road Department of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Region.
- Other relevant PMO staff (e.g., Gender or ES & OHS Consultant) as needed.
- 129. If needed, the Tier 2 GRC may involve government bodies per national law for land acquisition, resettlement, or compensation issues.
- 130. The Tier 2 GRC will decide on complaints within fifteen (15) days of escalation. If not resolved or the complainant remains unsatisfied, they retain the right to take the matter to court as per Uzbek law. The court process is separate from the project-level GRM.

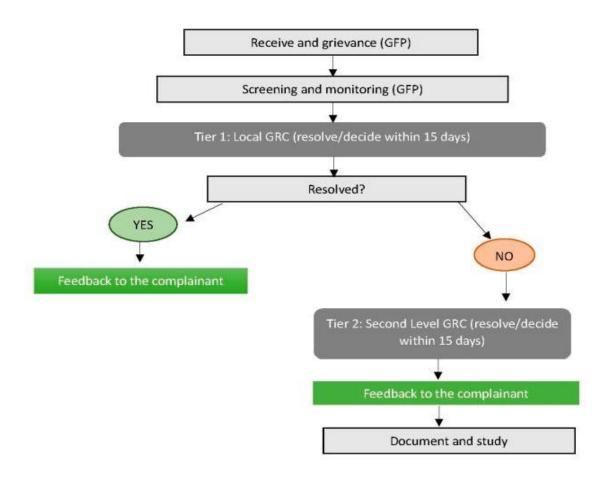


Figure 3 Grievance Redress Mechanism Structure

- 131. The grievance redress process, depending on the complexity of the issue, includes the following actions:
- 132. **Receiving grievances.** The GFP at the district level shall receive appeals and complaints directly from the complainant or made through any staff of the project, members of the GRC at the local level or second level GRC at PMO. In case a complaint is lodged through the project staff members, members of the GRC at the local level or GRC at PMO central level, or other respective agencies, they shall forward it to the subject district GFP to register, coordinate, and document the complaint resolution process. Annex 1 has a sample of a Complaint/Appeal form (i) Registration of grievances. The district level GFPs should register a grievance in appeals / complaint registry logbooks for their respective districts (Annex 2). The GFP at PMO level should maintain an electronic database of all the received grievances and appeals. A simple excel sheet can be used for this purpose, which also allows sorting, filtering, and conditional formatting.
- 133. **Screening and confirmation.** The Contractor's GFP or Engineer's GFP shall assess whether the received grievance/appeal relates to the project's activities and is eligible under the Project GRM.
- 134. If the appeal / grievance is eligible for this GRM scope, the district level GFP shall inform the complainant accordingly. Within three (3) days of receipt of the appeals / grievances, the district level GFP shall:

- Send acknowledgment of receiving a complaint to the complainant, informing about accepting it for consideration, the next steps, and expected date of response to the complainant; and / or
- Request the complainant to provide clarifications / information, if required.
- 135. If the appeal /grievance is ineligible for this GRM scope, the district level GFP shall inform the complainant accordingly that the subject grievance cannot be considered through the project GRM, and within a period not later than three days from the date of receipt by letter, it shall be sent to the relevant authorities with a message about this to the applicant, in writing or in electronic form.
- 136. Grievance / problem statement formulation. Clarify the claims of the complainant(s) and formulate a clear, precise and comprehensive problem / grievance statement including information such as:
- a) Who, how many are affected;
- b) What happened, when, and where;
- c) What is a claim / resolution is expected by the complainant.
- 137. Data collection and analysis. Collect and analyze information, document the appeals / grievances through relevant approaches such as:
- a. Collection and review of documents, background information (e.g. documents, photos, video materials, meeting notes);
- b. Meetings with the complainant, any other relevant stakeholders, and conduct joint site visits; if the appeals / grievances contain circumstances that require study on the spot, as well as in other necessary cases, considering the appeals/grievance, must ensure that the appeals / grievance is considered on-site;
- c. Subject to the nature of the case, engage the relevant government and independent experts, hold meeting with the experts and complainant, seek further clarifications, and prepare records of meetings;
- d. At this stage, when more information is collected and analyzed, check if the grievance/problem formulation is the same or need to make changes, if necessary.
- 138. **Document process.** The Contractor's GFP, Engineer's GFP, and PMO GFP shall document the grievance details and supporting information for each case. All documented grievances must be submitted to the PMO-level GFP, who consolidates the site-level records into the central grievance database and tracks resolution progress for both Tier 1 and Tier 2.
- 139. Hearing the grievance and identifying resolution options. Based on collected and analyzed information, conduct the grievance hearing with participation of the complainants and / or their representative(s) to consider grievance resolution options.
- 140. Develop and select resolution options. Develop options and select the one, that is feasible to implement and accessible / acceptable for all in consensus manner. To assess feasibility these questions can be used:
- a) Can it be implemented in a reasonable time?
- b) Can it be done within cost limits?
- c) Will it work reliably?
- d) Will it use staff and equipment efficiently?

- e) Is it flexible enough to adapt to changing conditions?
- 141. To assess accessibility / acceptability, these questions can be used:
- a) Do the implementers support the solution, perceiving it as worth their time and energy?
- b) Are the risks manageable?
- c) Will the solution benefit the people affected by the problem?
- 142. **Get confirmation from the complainant.** Receive written consent or disagreement of the complainant with the proposed solution. Have a meeting, discuss the option and its outcome with the complainant.
- 143. Develop and implement a timebound action plan. If the complainant agreed to the proposed solution, prepare timebound action plan, indicate required resources, and responsible parties to implement the decision made for the grievance resolution. An action plan shall indicate the necessary actions and consider the following questions:
- a) What actions or changes will occur?
- b) Who will carry out these changes?
- c) By when will they take place, and for how long?
- d) What resources (e.g., money, staff) are needed to carry out these changes?
- e) Communication (who should know what?)
- 144. **Complaint Closing and Reporting.** Upon execution of the timebound action plan:
- a) Send a written confirmation to the complainant about the undertaken actions and outcomes:
- b) Have a meeting with the complainant to ensure that complainant's claims have been addressed in full and no further action is required, confirmed through a meeting protocol with the complainant.
- 145. Prepare the grievance closing report with all documents filed for the case. The essential components of a problem report include the following:
- Executive summary;
- Background;
- Review and assessment;
- Course of action,
- Recommendation, and schedule;
- Conclusion.
- 146. If the appeal / complaint cannot be resolved at this level, or if the complainant is not satisfied with the proposed solution, the case may be brought to the court as defined by jurisdiction of the RUz. The court is outside of the project-level GRM's jurisdiction.

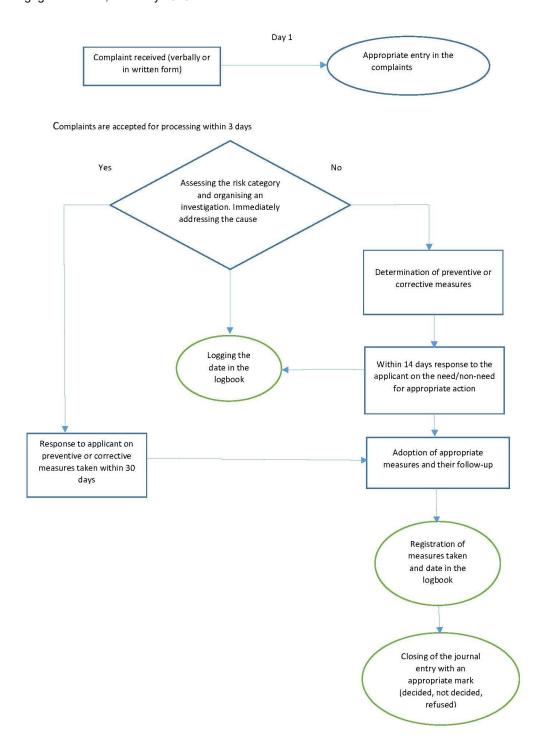


Figure 4 Scheme of work with complaints and appeals

8.6 Worker GRM

- 147. The following presents the worker grievance mechanism procedure that will be implemented by the Contractor and also includes measures for escalation of grievances by workers.
- 148. It is important to note that the Contractor Social Specialist will act as the Worker Grievance Mechanism coordinator and apply the requirements of this mechanism as detailed below.

- 149. At first, all employees are encouraged to resolve any grievances through communication with their direct manager Therefore, the grievance mechanism starts through a verbal notification by the employee to their direct manager. The court direct manager or supervisor shall give his/her verbal reply within three (3) working days. If the grievance is solved through direct communication with managers, then the employee does not need to submit a written grievance separately. The grievances should still be reported by the relevant managers to the Contractor Social Specialist to be recorded within a grievance log sheet. If the complaint is against the direct manager, then the procedure set out below should be followed instead.
- 150. In case the grievance is not resolved through direct communication, or if the employee is not satisfied with the response or action to the complaint by the direct manager, then the employee shall submit a grievance form, which includes information on the name of the employee, contact information, description of the grievance and the suggested solution to resolve the grievance.
- 151. Grievance forms and a grievance box will be made available at all times during construction at key locations onsite (e.g. office locations and other as appropriate). The grievance form will be available in Project languages. Location of grievance forms and grievance box will be communicated to all employees as part of the induction training by the Contractor Social Specialist.
- 152. The Contractor Social Specialist will check daily the grievance box to collect any submitted grievance.
- 153. In addition, where the complainant is illiterate, the complaint can be made verbally in confidence to Contractor Social Specialist whom in turn will complete the grievance form on behalf of the complainant.
- 154. In addition, a hotline for workers will also be available for those having difficulty in written expression as per the below details. The hotline will be managed and handled by the Contractor Social Specialist.
- 155. The Contractor Social Specialist will follow up on the grievances submitted and aim to resolve the grievance. The Social Specialist will analyze the root cause of the grievance, investigate if the grievance is correct or not, and provide an attainable solution to resolve the grievance in coordination with the employee, direct manager, and other personnel as appropriate which could also include the Contractor Site Manager. The Social Specialist should complete this step within seven (7) working days from date of submission of the grievance.
- 156. Contractor requires all contractors or subcontractors to implement this grievance mechanism for their respective employees and will also monitor its implementation to ensure compliance

8.7 GRM on Gender-Based Violence Grievances

- 157. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG): defined violence against women and girls as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life
- 158. Gender-based Violence (GBV) is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences between males and females. It includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of

- liberty. These acts can occur in public or in private. Women and girls are disproportionately affected by GBV across the globe.
- 159. Sexual Harassment (SH) is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other unwanted verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. SH differs from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in that it occurs between personnel/staff working on the project, and not between staff and project beneficiaries or communities. Both women and men can experience SH.
- 160. For the above complaints, there are risks of stigmatization, rejection and reprisals against survivors. This creates and reinforces a culture of silence so survivors may be reticent to approach the project directly. Therefore, the following steps should be ensured for any grievances related to the above.
- 161. The Contractor's and Engineer's Social Specialist will receive appropriate training from an authorized GBV Service Provider on how to collect GBV cases confidentially and empathetically (with no judgement). It is essential to respond appropriately to a survivor's complaint by respecting the survivor's choices. This means that the survivor's rights, needs and wishes are prioritized in every decision related to the incident. The survivor who has the courage to come forward must always be treated with dignity and respect. Every effort should be made to protect the safety and wellbeing of the survivor and any action should always be taken with the survivor's informed consent. These steps serve to minimize the potential for re-traumatization and further violence against the survivor.
- 162. Confidentiality is essential throughout the process. Otherwise, the survivor risks retaliation and a loss of security.
- 163. No identifiable information on the survivor should be stored including in particular the worker grievance log sheet. In addition, if a grievance is submitted through a grievance form it will be kept confidential.
- 164. Should the grievance be received by the Social Specialist through a grievance form, telephone, email or other, the Social Specialist should not ask for, or record, information on more than three aspects related to the incident and which include the following:
 - -Nature of the complaint (what the complainant says in her/his own words without direct questioning)
 - -If, to the best of their knowledge, the perpetrator was associated with the project; and,
 - -If possible, the age and sex of the survivor.
- 165. The Social Specialist should assist the survivor by referring them to the special authority for support immediately after receiving a complaint directly from a survivor. It is up to the survivor, and only the survivor, whether to take up the referral.
- 166. Survivors may need access to police, justice, health, and psychosocial, safe shelter and livelihood services to begin healing from their experience of violence.
- 167. The Social Specialist will immediately notify the Contractor Site Manager, PMO Manager, (if the consent of the survivor is obtained). The survivor must give consent to data sharing and know what data will be shared, with whom and for what purposes.
- 168. The GRC will meet immediately to agree on a plan for resolution as well as the appropriate remedy for the perpetrator in accordance with the below. Note: The survivor must give the service provider representative consent to participate in the resolution mechanism on her/his behalf.

- 169. All entities involved in case resolution, need to understand their legal obligations when it comes to reporting cases to the police. Reporting should be done in accordance with the law, especially in cases that require mandatory reporting of certain types of incidents, such as sexual abuse of a minor. When there is no legal obligation to report the case according to the local law, survivors hold the decision of whether to report cases for resolution and other service providers and reporting of a case to anyone can only be made with the consent of the survivor.
- 170. If the survivor does not wish to place an official complaint through the grievance mechanism, the complaint is considered closed.
- 171. If the alleged perpetrator is an employee of the Contractor or subcontractor, to protect the safety of the survivor, and the workplace in general, the worker, in consultation with the survivor—and with the support of the GBV Services Provider—should assess the risk of ongoing abuse to the survivor. Reasonable adjustments should be made to the alleged perpetrator's work schedule and work environment—preferably by moving the perpetrator rather than the survivor—as deemed necessary.

8.8 AllB's Project-affected People's Mechanism

- 172. AIIB has project-affected people's mechanism. ⁶Two or more project affected people, who believe, they have been or are likely to be adversely affected by AIIB's project activities, and their concerns cannot be addressed satisfactorily through project-level GRM or AIIB management processes, may file a complaint for an independent and impartial review by AIIB's Project-affected People's Mechanism (PPM).
- 173. Refer for details about the process, time limits of filing complaint and types of complaints eligible for the PPM to the "Rules of procedure of the project-affected people's mechanism issued by the managing director, complaints-resolution, evaluation and integrity unit (CEIU) June 13, 2019.⁷
- 174. Below is summary: The complaint may be sent to the PPM by mail, email, fax or hand delivered to PPM. The PPM can be contacted through a dedicated PPM website, via the AIIB homepage https://www.aiib.org or by contact information below:
- 175. Managing director, complaints-resolution, evaluation, and integrity unit, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
- 176. Tower A, Asia Financial Center, No.1 Tianchen East Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100101 Tel: +86-10-8358-0187
- 177. Fax: +86-108358-0000
- 178. Email: ppm@aiib.org
- 179. Time limits for filing complaints in general are 24 months from the project closing date or last disbursement date depending on financial modality.
- 180. Complaints/appeals cannot be considered by the PPM, if (i) it does not relate to a project, that has been approved for AIIB funding or for which PSI has been disclosed;(ii) it is anonymous; (iii) it makes accusations of fraud, corruption or other prohibited methods or is related to procurement; and other situations.

⁶ PPM-policy.pdf (aiib.org)

⁷ https://www.aiib.org/en/policies-strategies/ download/project-affected/PPM-RofP.pdf

8.9 Disclosure and Public Awareness

- 181. The PMO will disclose the GRM on its website for public information. The published information shall include the contact details of the Contractor's site GFPs, the Engineer's site GFPs, and the PMO-level GFP and Tier 2 GRC, with clear instructions on how stakeholders can lodge grievances.
- 182. Information, regarding the GRM, should be communicated to the affected community at the earliest stage of the project by AYA, during public consultations for social / resettlement and environmental impacts assessments, and the project engineering design and safeguard documents preparation. During these activities, information brochures, as well as verbal communication and other relevant media can be used.

9. Monitoring and Reporting

- 183. Successful stakeholder engagement continues throughout the project cycle and requires monitoring, analysis, reporting and disclosure to adapt to changing circumstances and stakeholder information needs.
- 184. The PMO ES Specialist will make regular changes and additions to the SEP during Project preparation and implementation, prior to the start and completion of construction activities, during construction in order to determine:
 - •the forms of engagement and the means of disclosure with respect to the various stakeholders;
 - •how often it is necessary to conduct consultations;
 - how adequately the incoming appeals and complaints are handled;
 - •whether the identified stakeholders remain relevant and the extent to which planned activities need to be reduced or expanded.

Table 8 Monitoring of Key Performance Indicators

Stakeholder Engagement	Key Performance Indicators	Frequency
Stakeholder Engagement Plan	 Number of updated versions 	As per update and at least once per year
Information Disclosure and Communication	 Number of reports shared with the stakeholders; Number of engagement activities carried out; and List of attendees with gender breakdown. 	Quarterly

	 Level of awareness on GRM to be captured basis of community feedback survey that will be conducted by PMO ES Specialist; Number of grievances lodged; 	
Grievances	 Number of grievances addressed/pending; and 	Monthly
	Percentage of grievances being addressed in stipulated time frame. For grievances that are opened for more than a month/or stipulated time frame, an explanation for the delay in closure of such open grievances should be provided.	

185. The SEP will also be adjusted if the Project implementation program changes.

9.1 Reporting

The PMO ES Specialist will be responsible for preparing the following reports:

- monthly reports on complaints received to the PMO during the construction stage;
- -semi-annual reports on complaints received to the PMO during the operational stage;
- 186. For regular reporting, PMO will produce reports at regular interval (Monthly/Quarterly) through specific communication as mentioned in

187.

- 188. of this SEP. Reports such as E&S Monitoring report will be reviewed and disclosed to all interested stakeholders through official website of the AYA. A sample Stakeholder Engagement Activities Log format for recording the SEP engagement is provided in Appendix 3.
- 189. The modes of reporting shall be as outlined in below

190.

191. :

Table 9 Outline Reports

Report	Stakeholder		Frequency	
The point	From	То		
E&S Monitoring Reporting	РМО	AIIB	Semi-annually	
E&S Performance Report	Supervision Consultant	РМО	Quarterly	
Contractor ES performance Report	Contractor	Supervision Consultant and PMO	Monthly	

BRNIP-2, Local Roads Network Reconstruction Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan, February 2025

Community Engagement Report	Contractor	Supervision Consultant and PMO	Monthly
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11. Appendices

Appendices forming part of the report are as follows:

- 1. Grievance Submission Form;
- 2. Grievance Log Form;
- 3. Stakeholder Engagement Activities Log
- 4. Minutes of consultations.

ANNEX 1 – COMPLAINT/APPEAL FORM

Complaint/appeal form Registration number:	
	ormation and state the essence of the complaint or other
	ne appeal. The information provided will be used on the
	ou want to file a complaint anonymously, write a
•	propriate field without specifying contact information –
explanations and answers to a	be considered in any case. Please note that nonymous requests are not provided.
Surname, first name, patronymic:	
Please, provide your contact information: Please, indicate	mailing address:
your preferred	phone: email:
method of contact(mail,	
phone, email):8	
Preferred language of	□ Uzbek
communication	□ Russian
	□ Other (please specify):
A description of the complaint of	or other event that is the subject of the
appeal: (What happened? Whe	ere did it happen? Who did it happen to?
What did it lead to?:	
D-4	
Date of the complaint/event	and time event (date
	□ one-time event (date) □ repeated event (how many times?)
	continuous problem (currently exists)
	Continuous problem (currently exists)
How would you like to see the	problem solved?
Tiew wedia yeu iiko te eee tiio j	STODIOTH CONTOU.
Please return the form to the G	FP:
Confidential for internal use	
Appeal accepted: (si	gnature)
Date:	

⁸ No need if anonymous submission

ANNEX 2 GRIEVANCE LOG FORM

Complaint Registration Number	Name/Contact Details	Date Received	Details of Compliant/Comment	Responsibility	ActionsTaken	Date Resolved	Status

ANNEX - 3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES LOG

Sr. No.	Stakeholder Groups	Date	Location and Venue	Name of Key Representatives	Purpose of Engagement	Key outcomes and Actions	Status of actions identified in previous consultations	Reference to records
1								
2								
3								
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8								
9								

ANNEX 4 FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND MINUTES OF MEETINGS DURING ESMPF PREPARATION

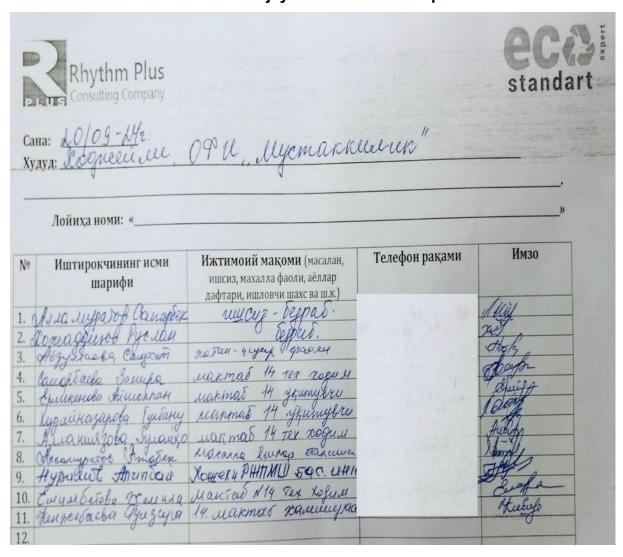
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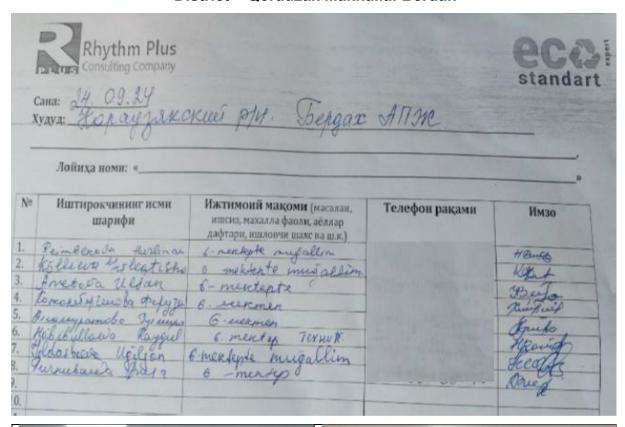




BRNIP-2, Local Roads Network Reconstruction Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan, February 2025



District - Qorauzak Makhalla: Berdah







Focus group discussion and public consultations with representatives of the population

Participants: General group of Berdakh OCG

Karauzyak district Karakalpakstan

Date: 24.09.2024

Moderator: Kamalova R.

The population of Berdakh OCG is 5460 people, 1052 households. The territory of OCG is 17217 sq. km. - the largest territory that borders other OCG.

What are the main sources of income for the population? The main types of employment? What are the employment opportunities in your area? For women? For young people? Are there many people who do temporary or one-time work?

In our village, the main sources of income for the population are public sector salaries, income from the sale of agricultural products, one-time work, picking and weeding cotton, retirement benefit and child benefits, as well as work on farms.

In our region there is a problem of unemployment among young people and women of all ages. More than 50% of young people move to other republics looking for job, to Uzbekistan, to cities, Nukus and the regional center.

Our district, Karauzyak, is under the supervision of Namangan region. They provide charitable assistance to low-income families and elderly single people. Currently, they are repairing and roofing the houses of these people.

Entrepreneurs from Andijan brought and installed two containers, opened a sewing workshop in one, and a hairdressing salon in the other container. Several local women were hired.

What are the most pressing social problems of the makhalla? (roads, electricity, water, gas, unemployment, lack of social facilities, labor migration, etc.).

There are no problems with electricity, water and gas supply in our makhalla. Unemployment has already been mentioned, it is a big problem for our district and makhalla. There is labor migration, men and women are forced to go to earn money in other countries, mainly in Kazakhstan. In our makhalla there is a clinic, a school, shops and a sports ground.

A big problem for today is our bad road. In the autumn and winter, impassable mud makes it difficult for people to get to the center and for children to get to school. Because of this, children may miss classes.

Another important and pressing issue is the landfill, which is located along the project road. The landfill is getting closer to the center of the makhalla every year, and its smell has a negative effect on people. There is concern that children may play near the landfill or that domestic animals graze near it. Residents of the makhalla constantly contact the khokimiyat and other authorities about the landfill. However, all to no avail.

What role does the project road play in the life and economy of the makhalla? What problems arose as a result of the poor condition of this road?

The road that runs through our makhalla is the main road, this is the main highway: Nukus - Khalkabad - Karauzyak - Takhtakupyr. This road plays a major economic role not only for our district, but for the entire republic. For example, in the Karauzyak district, residential mortgage houses for young people are currently being built, construction materials are delivered to this site by heavy-duty vehicles. These vehicles travel along this project road, there is no other road. Heavy-duty vehicles also travel along this road to construction sites in the Takhtakupyr district.

While driving along this bad road, the bottom of cars and the windshield break down. Small stones fly from under the wheels of oncoming traffic, leaving cracks and sometimes breaking the glass. Road dust worsens visibility, as a result of which drivers not only cannot avoid potholes, but also do not even see the oncoming car, which can lead to accidents. But, fortunately, there have been no accidents on this road in recent years. It is impossible to exceed the speed limit on this part of the road.

What process has been implemented so far to inform residents of your locality about the Project? Do you think that you have the necessary information about the Project? From which sources is it more convenient to receive information about the project (makhalla committee, project staff, khokimiyat, social networks, etc.).

We heard about the reconstruction project of this road today from the chairman of the makhalla. We do not have any information about the reconstruction of this road. It is convenient for us to receive information about the project from the makhalla committee from social networks.

What do you think about the project and what are your expectations?

We have high hopes that the road reconstruction will begin on time. And these works will be carried out without deception, as they write in their reports. As a result, the dirt will disappear, people will look with optimism to the future of their makhalla, which is beginning to revive. A good road for us is a civilized way of life.

What risks are you concerned about? Do you or your neighbours have any concerns about the proposed work within the project? Why do these concerns arise, in connection with what? Have you discussed these concerns with anyone, have you contacted anyone?

Until the work begins, we cannot talk about any risks.

We have only good expectations regarding the proposed works within the project. We hope that this project will not remain unrealized.

If access to the road is restricted during reconstruction, what problems might arise for residents? Are there alternative roads? What is their condition?

We have an alternative route that will provide access to the school, district center, SVP and other facilities. The road condition is satisfactory and no access problems are expected.

If you want to get more information about the project or have a problem that you would like to discuss with the relevant persons or organizations, do you know who to contact?

We receive information about the project from various sources, including television, telegram channels of the makhalla committee and the khokimiyat. We would like to receive additional information from the departments responsible for road repair and construction, such as the Ministry of Road Construction, the Karauzyak District Road Construction Department and the khokimiyat.

What measures do you think need to be taken (by the government, the khokimiyat) to reduce the negative impact of the project?

To reduce the negative impact of the project, it is necessary to ensure transparency of the construction process and inform the population about the progress of the work.

What do you think, if as a result of the project the property of some households is damaged, will they receive decent compensation for the property? If some entrepreneurs, workers lose their sources of income, will they receive compensation? What kind of support do they need to restore their income.

We do not foresee such cases, since there are no residential buildings or social facilities along this road.

Have there been any projects in your area before that resulted in damage to household property or loss of income? Did you receive compensation?

In our area, there have been no previous cases where projects have damaged property or caused people to lose their source of income. Water lines are currently being built and there have been no cases of property damage.

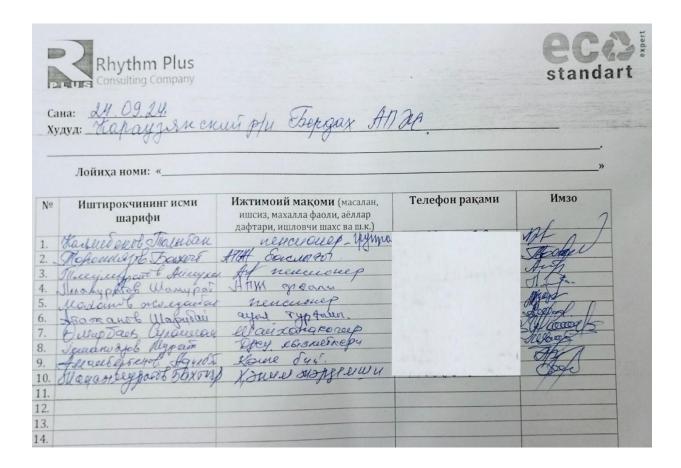
What do you think, what participation can the local population take in the implementation of the Project? What jobs can local labor force be involved in? If similar projects were implemented before, did local labor force participate in them?

Our local guys were involved in the construction of water lines, which is carried out by a company from Azerbaijan. We hope that in the future, during the reconstruction of the road, local workers will be involved.

Currently we use taxi services. After reconstruction we would like to see buses and minibuses launched from the makhalla to Khalkabad and Nukus.

The project will be very useful in terms of improving access of village residents to markets and services.

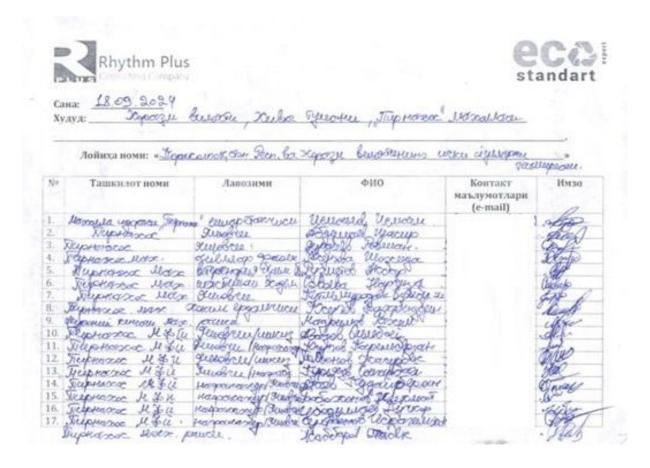
District - Qorauzak Makhalla: Berdah







District -Khiva Makhalla: Pirnahos

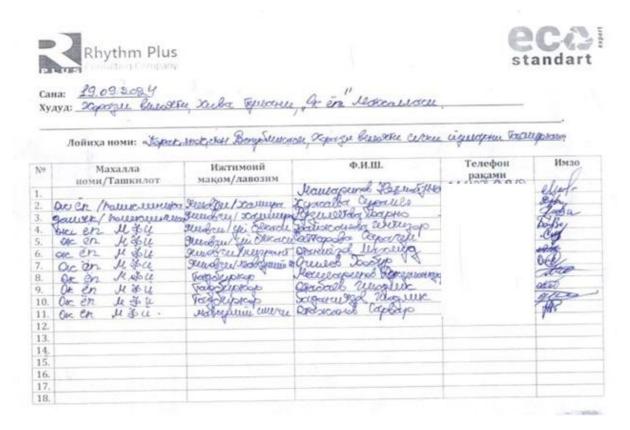








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District -Khiva Makhalla: Mehnatgu

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Focus group discussion and public consultations with women representatives

Participants: women of the "Mekhnatguli" MCG

Bogot district of Khorezm region

Date: 21.09.2024

Moderator: Mavlanov B.

"Mekhnatguli" makhalla is located in the village of "Karabog". This village is the largest village in Bogot district, which includes, in addition to this one, 4 more makhallas. About 80-90 percent of makhalla "Mekhnatguli" use this road, which is planned to be repaired within the framework of the project. It can be said that this road is very important for the residents of makhalla. In addition, this road is also used by residents of neighboring makhallas. The condition of the road today is very bad. There are many potholes on the road due to the wear of the asphalt surface. In summer, dust rises from the sides of the road, and in winter - dirt. People walk on the side of the road so as not to stain their clothes. This also causes accidents.

Residents mainly use private taxis to get to the district center. Due to the poor condition of the road, taxis do not want to come here or overcharge. For 50 km from Urgench to the beginning of this road, taxis charge 10,000-15,000 soums and the same for the remaining 3 km. Expensive ticket prices and long travel times create certain difficulties for those who study in the regional center, work in the regional or district center, or go there for other purposes. There are 2 comprehensive schools No. 25 and 40 in the makhalla, and students from both schools mainly travel along this road. Currently, school No. 40 is under repair, so students from this school also travel along this road to school No. 25.

Residents of the makhalla 1-2 times a week go to the wholesale market in the center of the Khozarasp district, located 15-20 km away. Traders also bring goods from this market to sell to the population. If the road were repaired, the population's time and money would be saved, and the income of entrepreneurs would increase. Various points of sale or other services could be organized on the side of the road. According to the chairman of the MCG, at the beginning of each year, 7 small plots of land intended for trade or production are put up for auction on the side of this road, but entrepreneurs do not want to buy these plots because of the poor road; other similar lands are sold very quickly. If the road is

repaired and traffic intensity increases, various service facilities could be built along the road. Thanks to this, the income of entrepreneurs will increase, and tax revenues to the state will increase.

One of the problems arising from the poor condition of the road is the high depreciation of vehicles of residents who use this road daily. As it turned out, each car owner who will drive on this road will have to spend an additional 1.5 million soums per year on average. To repair these cars, it is not necessary to go to district center, there are 3 auto repair shops in makhalla.

If necessary, an ambulance or a fire engine from district center cannot arrive at the appointed time due to extremely poor road conditions. For this reason, as well as due to the lack of public transport in the surrounding area, it is difficult for young people to get to some sports schools or courses in the center of district. In makhalla itself, there are no such opportunities.

The makhalla is included in the "Obod makhalla" ("Prosperous Makhalla") program. Under this program, some internal roads of the makhalla were repaired. However, 2 internal roads with a total length of 2 km, along which many students attend 25 schools, were not repaired. Using these roads allows schoolchildren to bypass the central road, where traffic is higher. During the conversation, it was noted that along with repairing the central road, it is extremely advisable to repair these 2 km long roads. Because this road is dusty in the summer and slushy in the winter. Children who go to school along this road are forced to wash their shoes with cold water every day before entering the classroom.

It was noted that after the repair of the central road it is very important to build a sidewalk, and it would be good if street lights, speed limit signs and pedestrian crossings were installed. It was also suggested that if 15-20 meters of internal roads adjacent to the central road are not renewed, dirt brought by vehicles from internal roads can quickly damage the new asphalt.

Residents of makhalla heard about plans to repair the project road 5-6 years ago and complain that practical work in this direction has not yet begun. Interview participants hope that construction of the road will begin in 2025.

As in other makhallas, the road will be repaired in sections so as not to create unnecessary difficulties for residents. At present, this part of the road will be closed. Participants claim that it is possible to bypass the road under repair.

Makhalla activists have repeatedly contacted district administration regarding the state of the central road. In response, each time they said that repairs to this road would be included in the plan for next year, but no practical work has been carried out to date.

According to the participants, representatives of the local population should be involved in the road construction work so that the unemployed could receive income, which would increase the benefits of the project for the population. It was also noted that in order to control the timely and high-quality performance of road construction work and prevent damage to the property of residents as a result of the project, it is advisable to create a control group with the participation of makhalla activists.

News about the project's work can be covered on the MCG "Mekhnatguli" TV channel. Almost all households in makhalla are members of this channel. Until now, this channel regularly publishes problems, news or other useful information that occurs on the scale of makhalla. For example, on this channel you can see news about the distribution of coal or liquefied gas in makhalla, which is a very important issue for residents.

the Mekhnatguli makhalla are mainly engaged in agriculture. The average area of household plots is 16-17 acres. On their household plots and other household plots, people grow legumes, rice, and wheat. Almost all farms keep cattle and sheep. Hay for cattle is grown mainly on household plots. In the fall, people plant wheat on these lands and collect wheat for their own needs and straw for cattle. They grind this wheat in a mill, and it can last for a year. After harvesting the wheat in the spring, it is replaced with rice or rice as a second crop. Irrigation water is enough for this. Usually, 1 ton of rice can be grown on an area of 17 acres, and 1 kilogram of rice can be sold for 15,000 soums. However, it was noted that about half of the population's income is money sent by foreign labor migrants. Because makhalla has a high level of external labor migration. Most young people who finish school go to work in the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan. There are also people who go with their families to work in another country.

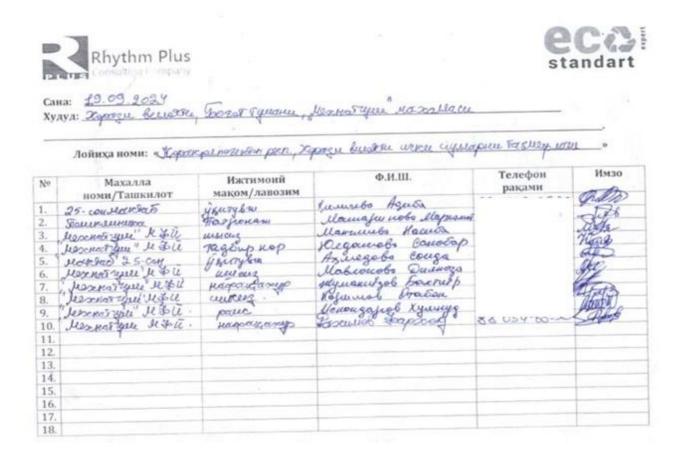
There is a railway freight wagon station near makhalla, through which goods arriving in district by rail are distributed. The trucks transporting these goods face certain difficulties due to the poor condition of the road.

Compared to the previous years, the number of young people, including girls, who entered higher education institutions in district has increased. In recent years, parents' attitudes toward girls' education in higher education institutions have improved significantly. However, there are not enough jobs in makhalla for young people who graduated from a university, especially teaching staff.

The makhalla administration won a grant of 200 million soums to organize courses for training unemployed women and youth in 5 areas, such as sewing, confectionery, hairdressing and national crafts. Training here will be free. This Project is valid until June 2025.

Outside the makhalla, a place has been allocated for the construction of sports facilities, such as a gym and a stadium. There are enough entrepreneurs who can build these structures. Various sports events can be held on these sites to keep the youth busy. However, there is a high probability that people will not go there because of the poor condition of the road. And entrepreneurs do not want to take risks. Also, the women participants want manufacturing plants and weaving factories to be built on the territory of makhalla. Then unemployed women would be provided with permanent employment, family income would increase, and women would also have an independent income. However, in order to begin this work, the road must first be repaired.

District -Khiva Makhalla: Mehnat guli)

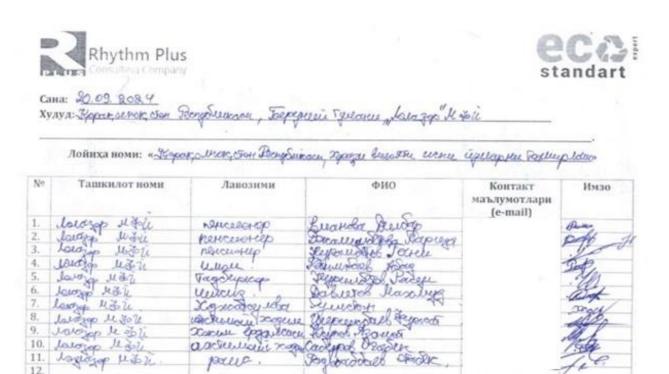






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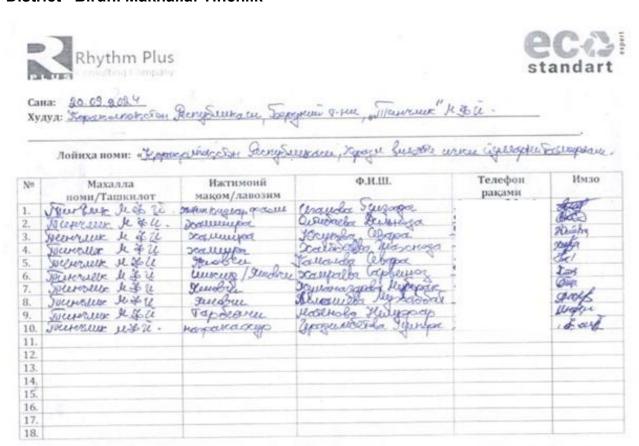








District -Biruni Makhalla: Tinchlik









Focus group discussion and public consultations with women representatives

Participants: women of the "Tinchlik" MCG Beruniy district Republic of Karakalpakstan

Date: 20.09.2024

Moderator: Mavlanov B.

The road that is planned to be repaired within the framework of the project passes through the center of "Tinchlik" makhalla. This road also passes through several other makhallas in the district. In total, about half of the makhalla population uses this road. The residents of the makhalla go to the district and regional center along this road. Students also go to school mainly this way. The very poor condition of this road causes various difficulties in the daily life of the residents of the makhalla. Countless potholes of different sizes have appeared on the road. These potholes are filled with dust and earth in summer, and during the rain they turn into mud and spread along the road. Since there is no sidewalk, people also walk on the roadway, since the dirt part of the road is covered with mud or dust.

Due to the poor condition of the central road, accidents often occur. Not long ago, there was a traffic accident where a 19-year-old boy died. According to the participants of the accident, it occurred due to the extremely poor condition of the road. Because the driver, trying to keep his car from falling into the ditch, collided with a car moving from the opposite direction.

During the FGD it became clear that there are non-residential properties that could be damaged during the road repair. According to the Chairman of the MCG, the owners of these properties knew about their possible destruction during the road repair and would not demand compensation for this damage to the property. This assumption raised doubts among some FGD participants.

The interviewees know that during the road repairs, traffic will be temporarily stopped in some sections. There are bypass roads that can temporarily replace this road, however, according to the FGD participants, the movement of cars on internal roads can lead to various problems, including damage to internal roads.

As part of the design work, the sidewalk should be built separately from the road. Then the safety of pedestrians will be ensured. In fact, there is enough space for a sidewalk between the houses and the road. The construction of the sidewalk does not damage anyone's property. The interviewees are sure that there will be no protests among the population on this issue. Because at first, when this road was built, there was a sidewalk along the edge, and it is still there, but it partly has lost its shape. This sidewalk needs to be reapired too. It is also proposed to install road signs, traffic lights, street lamps, designate pedestrian crossings, and build public transport stops.

There is no public transport for residents of the makhalla. People use private taxis or personal cars to get to the district or regional center. According to some participants, it is not necessary to go to the city by bus, a taxi (Damas) is enough. According to them, the bus schedule is not followed, so people prefer to use taxis. If the road is repaired and brought to a good condition, the number of taxis and traffic will also increase. The time spent on the road is significantly reduced. However, according to other participants, public transport is necessary for the district. Participants had different opinions on this matter. Currently, the road to the district center by taxi takes 30-35 minutes, the cost of travel is 5 thousand soums.

Representatives of the MGS heard about the proposed Project, but most of the FGD participants and residents of the makhalla had not heard about the major repairs of the central road.

There are separate Telegram channels for the chairman of the MCG, the women's advisor, the youth leader of the makhalla, the representative appointed by the public body of the makhalla, and the prevention inspector, and almost all households in the makhalla are members of these channels. According to the participants, these channels can provide information on the progress of road construction work, on the progress of the project. In addition, the participants approve the idea of creating a public control group of 10 people, which will monitor the quality of repair work, compliance with the established deadlines, possible impact on the environment and damage to the property of residents.

The main problem of the makhalla today is the poor condition of the central road, which is considered unsafe to drive on. However, in addition to the bad condition of the road, the residents of the makhalla have other problems as well. For example, there is no centralized water supply in the makhalla. Residents buy filtered water for drinking, in 10-liter bottles. And for household needs, they use

water obtained with the help of a hand "pump" from a depth of 16-18 meters. Such water is considered salty and unsuitable for drinking. Toilets are located at a reasonable distance from the pump.

All households in the makhalla have "tomorka" (fruit and vegetable gardens). Residents sell fruit, vegetables and other agricultural products grown in these gardens in the market in excess of their needs. Households mainly raise cattle and sheep.

There are no workshops or manufacturing plants in the mahalla where women could find permanent employment. About 50 women from the makhalla work at a sewing factory in the center of the district. They receive a salary of 1.5-2 million soums per month. The company provided a bus for them. The female participants of the FGD want such factories to be opened in the makhalla itself.

If this road is repaired and modernized, the main problem of the makhalla would be solved. As a result of the major repair of the road, it will be easier for residents to sell agricultural and livestock products grown on their tomorkas at the market in the center of the district. Women of the makhalla have to go to the market or to another job about 2-3 times a week. Today, due to the poor condition of the road, they have to spend additional time and money on this, since taxis are very slow and the fare is high. If the road is majorly repaired and brought to the required level, this will create a significant level of convenience for those who attend various courses and tutors in the district center in order to prepare for entrance exams to universities, as well as for those who go to work and master other professions. Such courses are very popular among the youth of the makhalla.

The unemployment rate in the makhalla is high. Women may be temporarily involved in seasonal agricultural work. For example, during the cotton picking season, they pick cotton, pack fruit, and do other agricultural work. Some women work in a local school, kindergartens, and a medical center. According to the women who participated in the FGD, the main income of the makhalla residents is money sent by internal and external labor migrants. Men aged 20-40 in the makhalla, and sometimes women, go to work in Tashkent, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of Kazakhstan. Family incomes would increase if community members were involved in simpler tasks within the Project. There are enough young people in the makhalla who are willing to do this work. Today,

unemployed men from the makhalla who are not in migration go to the district center for one-time jobs.

Although there is a medical center in the makhalla, when residents fall ill, they turn to specialists at the central district polyclinic. Due to the poor road conditions and high travel costs, many women do not undergo routine medical examinations.

Previously, no major projects have been implemented in the makhalla. According to the interviewees, no conflicts will arise between those who came to work from other places and local residents during the implementation of the Project. On the other hand, the population can work in road construction, provide services using their own transport, cook food, etc.