Project Summary Information

	Date of Document – October 15, 2026
Project Name	Expansion and Modernization of Public School Infrastructure, Phase 1 Project
Project Number	P000881
AIIB member	Uzbekistan
Sector/Subsector	Education Infrastructure
Status of Financing	Under Preparation
Project Description	Uzbekistan's public education system is under significant pressure due to growing demand driven by demographic pressure and urbanization. AIIB is adopting a programmatic approach to support Uzbekistan's efforts to expand, strengthen, and modernize its public education system. Phase 1 will support the expansion and modernization of existing public secondary education schools serving grades 1–11. Phase 2 is planned to further enhance education accessibility and quality in alignment with international standards. The Uzbekistan: Expansion and Modernization of Public School Infrastructure, Phase 1 Project (Project) is a Results-Based Financing (RBF) operation with an Investment Project Financing (IPF) component that supports the expansion and modernization of Uzbekistan's public education system. It aims to achieve improvements in three results areas: (a) the enabling environment for green and quality education; (b) improved school infrastructure and capacity expansion; and (c) access, equity, and quality in education. With AIIB financing, the Government of Uzbekistan plans to create around 89,940 additional school seats by constructing new buildings with modern facilities, in approximately 216 schools in six priority regions—Bukhara, Republic of Karakalpakstan, Kashkadarya, Khorezm, Samarkand, and Surkhandarya. The Project will benefit students, families, and communities in both urban and rural areas across Uzbekistan.
Objective	To expand and modernize public school infrastructure and improve access, equity, and the quality of the learning environment to meet the increasing needs of secondary education across Uzbekistan.
Expected Results	The Project is expected to expand and modernize approximately 216 public schools with environment-friendly and energy-efficient facilities, providing around 89,940 additional school seats for students, improving the accessibility, equity, and quality of education in Uzbekistan.

Environmental and Social Category	B

Environmental and Social Information	**Applicable Policy and Categorization.** AIIB's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP, 2024), particularly the provisions applicable to RBF projects under Section 15, including the Environmental and Social Exclusion List, applies to this Project. The Project has been categorized as Category B under AIIB's ESP. The anticipated environmental and social (ES) risks and impacts of the RBF component are expected to be site-specific, temporary, predictable, and reversible, and can be effectively managed through appropriate design, construction controls, and supervision. Activities requiring land acquisition, voluntary land donation, physical or economic displacement, restrictions on access, unresolved land disputes, significant conversion of natural habitats, impacts on protected areas or cultural heritage, large-scale demolition, or hazardous-waste risks that cannot be adequately managed will be excluded. Category A (high ES risk) activities, as well as Category B activities with potentially significant adverse impacts, are also excluded. The eligibility of activities under the Results-Based Project (RBP) is subject to the defined RBP boundary and applicable exclusion criteria and will be assessed and verified through ES screening conducted as part of the EIA process, together with the relevant disbursement-linked indicator (DLI) verification arrangements. **Environmental and Social Instruments.** An Environmental and Social System Assessment (ESSA) has been prepared in accordance with AIIB's ESP. As part of the ESSA, AIIB has reviewed (a) the government program, (b) the applicable legal and regulatory framework, (c) the institutional capacity, (d) the operational performance, and (e) the World Bank-supported PforR program, Uzbekistan - BILIM: Transforming Public Education for Economic Growth Operation.[1] An Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) has been developed based on the ESSA findings to strengthen the government's system for managing ES risks. **Environmental and Social Impacts.** The main environmental risks are associated with construction activities within operating school compounds. These activities include site clearance, excavation, generation of dust, noise, vibration, traffic and pedestrian safety, construction, hazardous waste, e-waste, surface runoff, accidental spills, worker health and safety, tree transplantation, utility installation, fire and electrical safety, and the operation and maintenance (O&M) of new building systems. Mandatory procedures and responsibilities for managing information and communication technology (ICT) equipment and e-waste for ICT classrooms under the RBP have been prepared as part of the ESSA. These procedures describe both the step-by-step process for e-waste management, as well as the institutional responsibilities required to ensure its safe, accountable, and environmentally sound handling. All relevant entities will be required to comply with these procedures. These impacts are expected to be mostly site-specific, temporary, predictable, and reversible. They can be effectively managed through careful site planning, the application of design standards, environmental assessment and approval, contractual requirements, construction supervision, and appropriate O&M arrangements. Key social risks include disruptions to school operations, temporary loss of school space, restricted access, child safeguarding and community safety risks, labor and working condition risks, worker conduct and sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEA/SH)

[1] World Bank. BILIM: Transforming Public Education for Economic Growth Operation.

	risks, temporary disturbance to neighboring communities. There are possibility and potential social risks that girls, children with disabilities, or other vulnerable groups may not fully benefit from Project interventions unless inclusive measures are effectively implemented and maintained, therefore gender action plan, inclusive measures and indicator are considered and integrated into the project. Given that construction will take place within operating school compounds, particular attention will be paid to child safeguarding and the continuity of school operations. No land acquisition or displacement is anticipated, as works will be confined to existing school compounds, and the selection of each proposed school will be guided by the school selection criteria that require adequate land availability for expansion and ES screening to confirm eligibility. **Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure.** The ESSA consultations were conducted through meetings; site visits; discussions with school administrations, families, and *mahalla* representatives; and an online meeting. While the Project team visited all six priority regions, the dedicated ESSA consultations covered national institutions in Tashkent and regional and local government institutions and schools in Bukhara, Kashkadarya, Republic of Karakalpakstan, Khorezm, Samarkand, and Surkhandarya. Consultations confirmed strong support for the proposed investments and the objective of reducing overcrowding. Stakeholders also identified risks and temporary disruptions associated with construction in operational schools, including access restrictions, construction-related hazards, dust, noise, and vehicle movements. The draft ESSA has been disclosed on the AIIB website with summaries in the local language.[2] **Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).** The GRM applicable to the Project is based on the national "People's Reception" system established across government institutions at national, regional, and district/city levels, in accordance with Law No. ZRU-445. This system provides a formal channel for citizens to submit complaints, requests, and inquiries through multiple access points, including in-person visits, hotlines, official websites, and email. The ESSA identified gaps related to project-level grievance tracking; child-accessible grievance mechanisms; confidential handling of sensitive complaints; protection against retaliation; and the consolidated tracking and reporting of grievances related to RBP-supported schools. These gaps will be addressed through the RBP Action Plan by strengthening the existing grievance system through project-level tagging and consolidated reporting of grievances related to RBP-supported schools; establishing accessible grievance channels for students, parents, and other stakeholders; and implementing confidential, survivor-centered reporting and referral arrangements for sensitive complaints, including SEA/SH complaints, with protection against retaliation. Grievance channels will be disclosed at participating schools and *mahalla* communities in an appropriate manner. **Monitoring and Reporting Arrangements.** The Project Coordination Office (PCO) will engage qualified ES staff to coordinate and monitor implementation of the ESAP. Construction supervision consultants will also appoint dedicated environmental, health and safety, and social staff to oversee construction activities. The Ministry of Education and Science

[2] AIIB. Uzbekistan: Expansion and Modernization of Public School Infrastructure, Phase 1 Project.

	(MOES) will submit semi-annual ES monitoring reports to AIIB based on the agreed format, covering the implementation of the applicable RBP Action Plan measures, as well as ES and occupational health and safety performance, including contractor performance, incidents, grievances, stakeholder engagement, training, non-compliance, and corrective actions. AIIB will conduct field missions regularly to review Project implementation and provide support to MOES as needed throughout the Project implementation period.			
Cost and Financing Plan	The government programs related to the scope of the RBP for 2026–2030 are estimated at USD1,770.42 million, while AIIB is proposed to provide a sovereign-backed loan of USD200 million, with a target to mobilize a grant of USD3.5 million from the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) to support implementation. The intended CIDCA grant will be mobilized and managed by AIIB through the agreed mechanism of the Project Special Window under AIIB's Special Funds. The AIIB loan will be signed in two tranches, with USD100 million for Tranche 1 to be implemented from 2027 to 2029, and USD100 million for Tranche 2 to be implemented from 2028 to 2030.			
Borrower	Uzbekistan			
Implementing Entity	Ministry of Education and Science, Uzbekistan Ministry of Economy and Finance, Uzbekistan			
Estimated date of loan closing	December 31, 2031			
Contact Points:	**AIIB**	**Borrower**	**Implementing Entity**	**Implementing Entity**
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Date of Concept Decision	May 25, 2026			
Date of Appraisal Decision	October 8, 2026			

Estimated Date of Financing Approval	Q4, 2026 / Q1, 2027

Independent Accountability Mechanism	AIIB's Project-affected People's Mechanism (PPM) will apply to the Project. The PPM has been established by AIIB to provide an opportunity for an independent and impartial review of submissions from Project-affected people who believe they have been or are likely to be adversely affected by AIIB's failure to implement its ESP in situations where their concerns cannot be addressed satisfactorily through the program-level GRM or the processes of AIIB's management. For information on AIIB's PPM, please visit: https://www.aiib.org/en/about-aiib/who-we-are/project-affected-peoples-mechanism/how-we-assist-you/index.html.