

Early Warning System

WB-P148868

Odisha Disaster Recovery Project

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Quick Facts

Countries	India
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Active
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2014-02-20
Borrower	GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
Sectors	Construction, Water and Sanitation
Potential Rights Impacts	Cultural Rights, Healthy Environment, Housing & Property, Right to Food, Right to Water
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 153.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 218.60 million

Project Description

The proposed development objective of the project is to restore and improve housing and public services in targeted communities of Odisha, and increase the capacity of the State entities to respond promptly and effectively to an eligible crisis or emergency, such as tropical cyclones, storm surges, tsunamis, and floods.

The State of Odisha is particularly vulnerable to earthquakes, floods, drought, cyclones, and landslides. On October 12, 2013 Cyclone Phailin hit Odisha with wind gusts up to 220 kilometers per hour, heavy rains measuring up to 25 centimeters and storm surge over 3 meters. This was the strongest cyclone to hit the Indian coast in the past 14 years and the ocean pushed in as much as 40 meters along parts of the coast. In 1999 the Super Cyclone 05B hit Odisha and killed more than 10,000, destroyed 275,000 homes and left 1.67 million homeless.

This project has two locations, the first on India's coast near Puri and the second inland near Banigochha. This project is currently being implemented.

The project has five components.

Component 1: Resilient Housing Reconstruction and Community Infrastructure. This component has two sub-components: (i) housing reconstruction for the reconstruction of about 30,000 houses in the designated rural areas in the coastal belt 5km from the high tide line in the districts of Ganjam and Puri, 5km from the Chilika lake boundary; and (ii) selected community infrastructure for public infrastructure improvements to complement the housing reconstruction.

Component 2: Urban Infrastructure in Berhampur. This component will finance investments to improve public services in this area while at the same time reduce the vulnerability of its population. It has four sub-components: (i) upgrading of slums; (ii) public service infrastructure; (iii) community participation; and (iv) technical assistance.

Component 3: Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Management. This component supports the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) in strengthening their overall capacity towards better risk mitigation, preparedness, and disaster response.

Component 4: Implementation Support. This component is meant to finance the incremental operating costs of the project management units and project implementation units.

Component 5: Contingent Emergency Response. This component will draw resources from the unallocated expenditure category or allow the Government of Odisha to request the World Bank to re-categorize and reallocate financing from other project components to partially cover emergency response and recovery costs. This project has two locations, the first on India's coast near Puri and the second inland near Banigochha. This project is currently "active" and is proceeding as planned.

Early Warning System Project Analysis

RISK CATEGORIZATION

The project is designated as Category B, which warrants a partial assessment. A Category B project has potential adverse environmental impacts on human populations or environmentally important areas - including wetlands, forests, grasslands, and other natural habitats - that are less adverse than those of Category A projects. Bank records state that, on the whole, with proper planning and implementation of management measures, the project interventions are not likely to cause large scale, significant or irreversible damage to natural and/or physical environment.

APPLICABLE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

According to Bank documents, the World Bank's safeguard standards are triggered because the project includes: (i) fulfilling housing needs of the poor affected households, (ii) improving affected slums in Berhampur with civic infrastructure and services such as access roads, water, sanitation, drainage, and streetlights a socially and environmentally sustainable manner; (iii) ensuring community participation in the reconstruction process; (iv) addressing differential impacts on and recovery needs of the affected vulnerable/ marginalized families and groups women headed households, and disabled persons; (v) enhancing disaster resilience of coastal communities with secure public infrastructure and services in the worst affected areas; and (vi) minimizing and mitigating any adverse social impacts arising out of any project activities.

While the Bank indicates that the nature and scale of activities associated with these proposed project interventions and their impact on physical and natural environment are not likely to be significant or irreversible per se, the project itself is located in the coastal realms of a state that is marked by various degrees of vulnerability and some sensitive environmental features. Therefore, there are risks or issues that need to be managed through appropriate planning and upfront care during the site selection process, particularly in case of settlements/ habitations located close to the shoreline or high tide line influence area or in low lying area/s.

Other social and environmental standards are not triggered by this project because the Bank determined that the project does not involve the necessary activities that would trigger other standards such as: Forests OP/BP 4.36, Pest Management Op 4.09, Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10, Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37, Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50, and Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60.

Specifically, the Bank has excluded the Indigenous Peoples standard because it determines that tribal habitations with unique socio-cultural identities different from the general population are not found in the project area. Bank documentation indicates that the few tribal families that may be present are part of the mainstream population.

The following standards are triggered as a result of the nature of this project:

Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01

An Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been prepared in compliance with Bank safeguards policy OP 4.12. The ESMF provides a) an entitlement matrix for mitigating any adverse impacts cause; and b) a Gender Equity and Social Inclusion framework to address the special needs of the women, vulnerable families and marginalized communities. The Bank states that social screening will be carried out as per ESMF guidelines at village levels for housing and at cluster levels for slum improvement works. Based on screening, short or full resettlement action plans (RAP) will be prepared and implemented prior to start of the civil works.

Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04

According to Bank documentation, this standard is triggered because the project impacts could include (a) existing blockages of natural drainage system/channels resulting in water logging in some areas; (b) absence of sanitation facilities and open

People Affected By This Project

ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS RISK ASSESSMENT

RIGHT TO HOUSING AND PROPERTY

Bank documentation notes that two project components may result in involuntary resettlement: slum upgrading in Berhampur city and the provision of housing and common infrastructure in affected villages within 0-5 km of the coastline in Ganjam, Puri, and Khordha districts within 0-5km of the coastline in the Ganjam, Puri, and Khordha districts. In affected coastal villages, the Bank states that the project will require acquisition of land and area in the relocation of aquaculture activities, use of land allocated by local government for a Training Center, as well as resettlement in six villagers in Xiapu County. Land acquisition is mostly related to access roads, which will also serve as emergency evacuation routes, borrow areas and the training center. Resettlement includes acquisition of 207 mu of land and the relocation of an area of 276 mu used for aquaculture, as well as relocation of four small enterprises.

In cases where relocation is required, Bank documentation states that the Government will identify appropriate government lands, or will purchase private lands 'free of encumbrances' from willing sellers for housing along with common infrastructure such as access roads, water supply, sanitation, etc. In case of in situ housing, common infrastructure improvements in existing villages will be undertaken through a community resolution if community land is available or private land (if minor parcels) are available for donation.

In case of slum improvement affecting some 30,000 people in 80 slums, Bank documentation states that common infrastructure and services such as access and street roads, street lights, drainage, water supply and sanitation will be provided within available carriageway or through land purchase or voluntary land donation agreements with the beneficiaries where feasible without resorting to land acquisition. Any residual adverse impacts arising out of the housing or slum improvement subcomponent will be assessed and mitigated by preparing and implementing resettlement action plans (RAP) in line with the ESMF complying with the OP 4.12.

Some safeguards risks posed by the project are as follows: (i) obtaining land in a few cases where suitable government land may not be available; (ii) challenges of mobilizing adequate community mobilization professionals to ensure participatory planning and implementation of the housing and slum improvement activities; (iii) addressing capacity building issues at the level of central and field level implementing mechanisms; and (iv) having to apply the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act (LARRA) 2013, which has come into force on January 1, 2014 for taking private land for project activities.

To address these risks, Bank documentation states that the Project will focus exclusively on land donation and purchase to avoid any private land acquisition. The ESMF adopts an adaptive legal framework and provides for a participative approach, offers guidelines to ensure gender equality and social inclusion, and sets out robust implementation arrangements to deal with the above risks. In discussing the acquisition of project lands, Bank documentation relies heavily on voluntary land donation, as in the following: "The ESMF provides clear guidelines for carrying out and documenting voluntary land donation transparently with prior disclosure of norms and community resolutions. These guidelines are provided to ensure that: land is not acquired from poor and vulnerable land owners who are in the small or marginal category farmers, no pressure is exerted, no adverse impact if generated on the owner's incomes, shelter, business due to such donation, donated land is free of encumbrances and no land with structures is accepted, land is jointly measured and the government bears all costs towards mutation, and that grievance redress mechanism is established to address concerns of the donor."

The following questions may be relevant to determining whether you or your community has suffered a violation of your right to property as a result of this project:

Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

The World Bank International Development Association (IDA) is providing USD $153 million of the total USD $218.60 million for the project through a Specific Investment Loan (SIL). The IDA lends money on concessional terms, meaning that the IDA charges little or no interest and repayments are stretched over 25 to 40 years, including a 5-to-10-year grace period. IDA also provides grants to countries at risk of debt distress. SILs support the creation, rehabilitation, and maintenance of economic, social, and institutional infrastructure. SILs may finance consultant services and management and training programs and are flexible lending instruments appropriate for a broad range of projects. The Government of India will be providing the remaining $65.60 million in funding for this project.

Private Actors Description

BORROWER ANALYSIS

The borrower under this project is the Government of India. The implementing agency is the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority. At the time of publication, the World Bank website shows that it had funded 549 projects in India over the last decade and there were 20 projects under consideration in different sectors including: agriculture, energy efficiency, flood protection, fishing and forestry, general water, sanitation and flood protection, irrigation and drainage, renewable energy, rural and inter-urban roads and highways, transmission and distribution of electricity, urban transport, and water supply. Analysis of the Bank's documentation indicates that all of the above projects in India represent a total of commitment of USD $98.35 billion. Currently under consideration in India, there are two projects in the sub-national government administration sector and another two projects in the general water, sanitation and flood protection sector.

PAST BANK FUNDING

The World Bank has funded numerous projects in the industry and trade subsector of housing construction India. The World Bank is a key partner of the Government of India in general, and of the Government of Odisha in particular, in its risk mitigation and management efforts in terms of damage prevention as a result of natural disasters. The current National Cyclone Risk Management Project I has been supporting the Governments of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh since 2010 to improve their capacity to manage hydro meteorological hazards, which contributed to the limited impact of Cyclone Phailin's damage (discussed above) in comparison with earlier events of comparable magnitude.

The Bank is also supporting the Government of India with similar efforts in Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and other states, as well as at the national level. This Project is part of a broader package to support the Government of Odisha's reconstruction and recovery efforts and to strengthen their capacity to manage future events. This broader package includes additional financing for the ongoing NCRMP-I, expansion of activities under the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (ICZM) and Odisha State Livelihood project, and assistance from the Asian Development Bank. As per the agreed framework, the ADB will be assisting the Government of Odisha in the Agriculture,Irrigation, and Energy sectors, while the World Bank assistance has been sought in rebuilding houses, slum improvements, expanding creation of risk mitigation infrastructure, enlarging the scope of plantations and livelihood enhancement activities.

In general, the World Bank has been involved in assisting the Government of India and the Government of Odisha in its efforts to improve its risk mitigation, preparedness, and disaster response. Specifically, the Bank will finance the following activities: i) Establishing an integrated complex comprising of OSDMA, GIS cell equipped with a decision support center, Emergency Operation Center and a training center, ii) Capacity augmentation of the OSDMA by providing them specialized dedicated manpower and through need-based hiring of technical experts in the areas of disaster risk management, hydro-met systems, risk assessment and financing, structural engineering, remote sensing, GIS, others to provide timely support to various project activities; and iii) Enabling the affected marginalized communities to cope with survival risks posed by natural calamities through community-based initiatives.

PAST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

The World Bank Inspection Panel has received twelve complaints in regards to human rights violations in the country, none of which are in sectors related to the Odisha Disaster Recovery Project. Most of the complaints dealt with infrastructure development. There have only been two complaints from the province of Odisha sent to India's Human Rights Commission, both on issues outside of the scope of this project.

Contact Information

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CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Bank indicates that the project beneficiaries are the population of the coastal areas of Ganjam, Puri and Khordha districts affected by the cyclone that will be part of the housing reconstruction program and about 30,000 inhabitants of selected slums in Berhampur, of which 50% are female. In addition, the Bank states that the total population of Berhampur, around 350,000 people, will benefit either directly or indirectly from the improvements expected to result from the master plans, as well as the totality of the 42 million inhabitants of the State as a result of increased capacity to manage and respond to disasters.

Bank documentation states that the fishing communities in these areas will be involved in all consultations because of their high status in their communities. The coastal fishing villages have powerful community leaders known as Naidu who look after the affairs of the community. The Naidu are different from the elected local representatives who represent wards in the local body and most of the village decisions are taken at the ward level. According to the Bank, these marine fishing communities "are telugu speaking, but understand the state's official Odia language."

Bank documentation states that a community consultation process to ensure proper consultation and participation of stakeholders will also be carried out in the slum clusters of Berhampur where slum upgrading will take place. This will be a large undertaking. According to the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for the project, slum upgrade work "will be undertaken in about 80 slums of the city covering a population of about 30,000" and the slum population in Berhampur city is 153,445 persons or 43% of the total population (2011 census).

The project coordinators must consult with the public throughout the project's lifetime in order to ensure the prioritization and phasing of the civil work program as well as address any unknown concerns the public may have. Also, the ESMF provides guidelines for free, prior, and informed consultation with the communities, ensuring community capacity building and participation, grievance redress, information disclosure and monitoring and evaluation. The ESMF also provides clear guidelines for carrying out and documenting voluntary land donation transparently with prior disclosure of norms and community resolutions.

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing ipanel@worldbank.org. You can learn more about the Inspection Panel and how to file a complaint at: http://ewebapps.worldbank.org/apps/ip/Pages/Home.aspx.