

## Cover Page for Project/Program Approval Request

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<b>1. Country/Region:</b>	Tajikistan	<b>2. CIF Project ID#:</b>	XPCRTJ040A
<b>3. Source of Funding:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> FIP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PPCR	<input type="checkbox"/> SREP
<b>4. Project/Program Title:</b>	<i>Building Climate Resilience in the Pyanj River Basin Project</i>		
<b>5. Type of CIF Investment:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed
<b>6. Funding Request in million USD equivalent:</b>	<i>Grant: 21.55</i>		<i>Non-Grant: N/A</i>
<b>7. Implementing MDB(s):</b>	<i>Asian Development Bank</i>		
<b>8. National Implementing Agency:</b>	<i>Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, State Unitary Enterprise for Housing and Communal Services (Kochagi Manzillu Kommunalni - KMK), and Ministry of Finance</i>		
<b>9. MDB Focal Point and Project/Program Task Team Leader (TTL):</b>	<i>Headquarters- Focal Point: Charles Rodgers <a href="mailto:crodgers@adb.org">crodgers@adb.org</a></i>		<i>TTL: Cinzia Losenno <a href="mailto:closenno@adb.org">closenno@adb.org</a></i>
<b>10. Project/Program Description (including objectives and expected outcomes):</b>			
<p>The project aims to increase resilience to climate vulnerability and change of communities in the Pyanj River Basin and reduce poverty incidence in the Project area. The project will increase access to water of communities by upgrading and climate proofing small scale community infrastructure for flood protection, irrigation and drinking water supply, and strengthen the ability of individuals, especially women, to respond to climate change by building capacity of community groups and providing access to affordable loans for agribusiness and economic diversification.</p> <p>The project's impact will be improved livelihoods of Pyanj River Basin communities vulnerable to climate variability and change. The project's outcome will be adverse effects of climate variability and climate change reduced in 59 villages in 19 Jamoats in the Pyanj River Basin. Further details are given in the Report and Recommendation of the President to the Board of Directors, and the Summary Project/Program Approval Request.</p>			
<b>11. Consistency with Investment Criteria<sup>1</sup>:</b>			
<p>Tajikistan is considered to be one of the countries in Central Asia most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. It frequently experiences extreme climate events such as intense spring rainfall, excessive melt-waters from large snow accumulations, droughts and occasionally devastating glacial lake outburst floods. These cause mudflows, floods, reduced water availability, avalanches, landslides, and rock falls. These hazards routinely take lives and destroy or degrade land, crops and infrastructure.</p> <p>When joining PPCR, the government of Tajikistan indicated water resources management as a priority sector for support, due to the high vulnerability of the sector and the high reliance on the sector for livelihoods. Consultations and analytical studies carried out during the first phase of the PPCR in Tajikistan confirmed integrated water resource management as a priority sector,</p>			

<sup>1</sup> Please provide the information in the cover page or indicate page numbers in the accompanying project/program document where such information can be found.

and identified the Pyanj river basin as one of the most vulnerable areas in the country. Despite these documented priorities, there are no relevant ongoing or planned ADB operations or government supported investments aimed at addressing integrated water resource management in the Pyanj river basin, except for the Khatlon Province Flood Management Project, due to close in June 2014, which focused on the rehabilitation of flood protection embankment. The project highlighted the significance and the urgent need for additional investments in climate resilient infrastructure and enhanced awareness of climate change to safeguard the lives and well being of the communities in the river basin. Moreover, consultations with over 1500 stakeholders, and evidence gathered from 2009 to 2011 and documented in the report of the technical assistance Climate Resiliency for Natural Resources Investments pointed to the urgent need for a project aimed at addressing the vulnerability of local communities, particularly women.

Studies, surveys and stakeholder consultations, referred to above, revealed that *lack of access to potable drinking water* as the number one cause of high number of people (especially children), who are sick of waterborne and other infectious diseases. Rehabilitation of water supply and construction of water reservoirs and other climate-proofed infrastructure, combined with public awareness on health and sanitation could help reduce morbidity and mortality rates in the project area. *Low income and loss/decline in agricultural productivity* due to insufficient water for irrigation caused by old water pumps, and need to improve irrigation structure were the two major problems identified during the baseline survey and consultations. Farmers have a low level of awareness on climate change adaptation including livelihood and crop diversification.

The project will improve livelihoods of over 100,000 households in the Pyanj River Basin vulnerable to climate variability and change. In particular, poor and vulnerable groups will benefit directly from improved protection against floods, increased supply of water for irrigation and household consumption, and access to microfinance to improve their resilience to climate variability and change s. The Project is consistent with the Tajikistan Country Partnership Strategy (2010-2014) and is included in the Tajikistan Country Operation Business Plan 2012–2013. The project is aligned with the Tajikistan Poverty Reduction Strategy, which outlines the need for concrete actions to increase food security and mitigate the burden of poverty through agriculture sector development, improvement of flood protection and irrigation infrastructure, increase supply of safe water, and access to affordable loans and microfinance services.

#### **12. Stakeholder engagement<sup>2</sup>:**

During project preparation, coordination with stakeholders and development partners, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations, bilateral donors, MDBs and communities, was achieved through regular workshops, meetings, and roundtable discussions. Consultation meetings and technical workshops were conducted with the community members and beneficiaries in several project areas. These included household surveys, consultation meeting for participatory vulnerability assessments, project design workshops, and discussion on indicators to be used in the Design and Monitoring Framework (DMF), and validation of preliminary project engineering design. Further details are provided in the Summary Project/Program Approval Request under the heading Stakeholder engagement, coordination, communications and participation in the Other Information section.

#### **13. Gender considerations<sup>3</sup>:**

The project is categorized effective gender mainstreaming. During project implementation, women will be involved in the implementation of the project and will also be targeted as a key

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

beneficiary group. A Gender Action Plan (GAP) was developed to ensure effective gender mainstreaming. The involvement of women will be sought through participatory approaches. Consultations with women groups are scheduled by each EA at least biannually. Among the proposed actions and targets in the GAP that should be ensured are: (i) training for women (at least 50% of attendees) on flood risk management, climate resilience agriculture, water resources management and financial literacy; (ii) at least 30% of loans available under the credit line will be for women or for enterprises with at least 50% women ownership; (iii) at least 20% of employment opportunities generated by the project will be for women, on the basis of a consensus building exercise that will involve both men and women. Further details are provided in the Appendix on Gender Action Plan, and in the Summary Project/Program Approval Request under the heading Gender Considerations in the Other Information section.

**14. Indicators and Targets (consistent with results framework):**

Core Indicator	Target
<p><b>INDICATOR A1.3:</b> Numbers of people supported by the PPCR to cope with effects of climate change</p>	<p>At least 500 people, including at least 50% women, trained on disaster risk management by the DRMCs in 10 jamoats</p> <p>At least 200 farmers trained on climate resilient agriculture practices by 8 WUAs</p> <p>At least 1,000 people access climate resilient agriculture and revenue diversification credit lines (2012 baseline=0)</p> <p>At least 1,000 potential borrowers, of whom at least 50% are women, trained in climate resilient agricultural practice</p>
<p><b>INDICATOR A2.1:</b> Degree of integration of climate change in national, including sector planning - e.g., national communications to UNFCCC, national strategies, PRSPs, core sector strategies, annual development plans and budgets, and NAPs</p>	<p>Disaster risk management plans based on early warning system established in 10 target jamoats</p>
<p><b>INDICATOR B1:</b> Extent to which vulnerable households, communities businesses and public sector services use improved PPCR supported tools, instruments, strategies, activities to respond to CV&amp;CC</p>	<p>At least 231 ha of arable land protected from annual floods (frequency less than 1 in 10 years) (2012 baseline=0)</p> <p>At least 1,490 ha of arable land protected from high floods (frequency greater than 1 in 10 years but less than 1 in 50 years) (2012 baseline=0)</p> <p>At least 1,450 ha of arable land serviced by 5 climate proofed irrigation canals and network (2012 baseline=0)</p> <p>At least 4,150 households serviced by 7 climate proofed water supply systems)</p>
<p><b>INDICATOR B2:</b></p>	<p>By 2019, economic losses from climate induced</p>

Evidence of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism to mainstream climate resilience	extreme events reduces by 20% compared to 2012	
<b>Indicator B.5:</b> Quality and extent to which climate responsive instruments / investment models are developed and tested.	At least 50% of surveyed beneficiaries, including at least 50% of surveyed women, confirm perception of improved access to drinking water  At least 350 people trained on climate change risks by the Water Consumer Groups in 7 jamoats	
<i>Development Indicator(s):</i> include the social, environmental, economic indicators linked to socioeconomic well being of the people in the project area. These have been presented in various sections of the RRP including the DMF, and various linked documents such as the PAM, the Sector Assessment, the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, the Country Economic Indicators, the Summary PRSP, environmental examination reports, and others.	Specific targets against relevant development indicators have been presented in the DMF of the Report and Recommendations of the President, the GAP, and the Summary PRSP.	
<b>15. Co-Financing:</b>		
	<i>Amount (in USD million):</i>	<i>Type of contribution:</i>
• Government	0.87	Taxes and duties
• MDB	0.00	N/A
• Private Sector (please specify)	0.28	Microfinance institution's cash contribution to loans
• Bilateral (please specify)	0.00	N/A
• Others (please specify)	0.00	N/A
<b>Co-Financing Total:</b>	1.15	
<b>16. Expected Board/MDB Management<sup>4</sup> approval date:</b>		
The project is subject to ADB Board's approval. The expected date of ADB Board's consideration of the project is 13 June 2013.		

<sup>4</sup> In some cases activities will not require MDB Board approval.