The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Tarbela 5 hydropower extension project, Pakistan: Learning the hard lessons from the past?

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Project Overview

Name: Tarbela 5 Hydropower Extension Project (T5HEP)
Location: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Pakistan
Cost: US$ 823.5 million
Investors: WB US$ 390 million; AIIB US$ 300 million; Government of Pakistan
US$ 133.5 million
Risk: Category A
AIIB project approval date: September 2016

Introduction

The Tarbela 5 hydropower extension project in Pakistan is one of the first investments made by the world’s newest multilateral bank - the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). There will be much scrutiny of the AIIB’s investments in its first year: how will it differ from existing multilateral development banks? How will the AIIB handle the social and environmental impacts of its first projects? Will this new bank transform the way development is done, or just repeat the mistakes of its predecessors?

At first glance, the AIIB’s investment in Tarbela 5 in Pakistan makes perfect sense. Rather than building a new dam, the AIIB – together with the World Bank and Pakistani government – is boosting production at an existing hydro-dam and linking it with new transmission lines to the national grid.¹ Project documents point out the benefits: “The Project will provide a low cost, clean, renewable energy option in a relatively short period of time. This will help alleviate severe blackouts and expensive, unhealthy and polluting self-generation with small gasoline and diesel generators. The Project will add capacity of 2,820 Megawatt (MW), with annual electricity generation of over 4,800 Gigawatt-hours (GWh), primarily during the summer season when demand is highest.”

But a deeper look at Tarbela 5 shows a landscape and community that have suffered extreme harms that have not yet been righted. Tens of thousands of people were displaced in the 1970s and 1990s by two mega hydropower projects, Tarbela and Gazi Barotha. Most of them were subsistence farmers and fishers; Tarbela alone submerged 120 villages. A case study for the World Commission on Dams, as well as other research publications,² documented significant problems with the associated resettlement of affected people. To this day many thousands of families remain impoverished and are still seeking fair compensation and redress for their losses.

The AIIB has recognised this and has committed that its $300 million investment in Tarbela 5 will not only contribute to the new construction, but also address “social legacy issues” from the previous projects². Like its co-investor, the World Bank, the AIIB classifies Tarbela 5 as high risk, or Category A.

The Tarbela 5 project presents a significant challenge to the new bank. It is a hands-on opportunity for the AIIB to learn from the mistakes of the past and right the many existing wrongs of previous projects. It is also a test of the AIIB’s environmental and social safeguards - can they prevent the inevitable displacement of local people for the new project causing them the same grave harms that others have suffered in the past?
Two major challenges

There are two main aspects to the social and environmental impacts of this new Tarbela project: the first relates to the commitment to help resolve the complex legacy of social and environmental harms caused in this region by the previous hydropower projects; the second is dealing with the displacement of people to make way for the new 52 km transmission line and 160 associated towers, and the Islamabad West Grid station.

The Grid Station will require approximately 200 acres of land. This will affect some 150 families. As the exact route of the transmission line and towers has not yet been finalized, the number of people who will be affected has not yet been calculated. According to the AIIB, a third component of the project - a new power house and modification to Tarbela’s Tunnel 5 - will have no social impacts because they are contained within the existing project facility.

Issue 1: The social legacy of the Tarbela and Ghazi Barotha projects: much remains to resolve

The Tarbela Dam, built in the 1970s and funded by the World Bank, is the second largest earth-fill dam in the world. Situated on the Indus River in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa about 70 km northwest of Islamabad, its reservoir is almost 100 km long and 243 square km when completely filled. In the 1990s, the Bank funded another hydropower project, Ghazi Barotha, 7 m downstream of Tarbela dam. This scheme diverts the Indus water through a 52 km long canal to Barotha village, where the power complex is located with a generating capacity of 1,450 MW.

Tens of thousands of people were displaced by the Tarbela and Ghazi Barotha projects. To this day, many remain without restitution for the harms they suffered. The AIIB is co-financing the new project with the World Bank which bears historic responsibility for the previous projects. The AIIB is also relying on the World Bank for the necessary environmental and social management plans for the project. In its response to a draft of this report, the World Bank pointed out that the AIIB is only financing T5 works and equipment contracts. However, as a co-financier of the project, that has committed to address past harms, the AIIB must bear equal responsibility for the project and its impacts, regardless of the use to which its share of funding is put.

The World Bank’s project documents admit: “Tarbela Hydropower Project has a long history of resettlement legacy issues. The past few decades saw continuous efforts to address them. A Resettlement Commission was set up under Tarbela 4 to facilitate a faster resolution of cases pending in various courts.”

The World Bank proposes to reconstitute this same Commission “to continue to work on the remaining resettlement cases”, and to deal with “unresolved resettlement court cases for the Tarbela Dam and Ghazi Barotha Hydro Projects.”

The crucial question is whether these new attempts to resolve the significant issues that remain outstanding at Tarbela will be any more successful than their predecessors.
Broken Promises

Recent interviews with communities affected by the Tarbela and Ghazi Barotha dams reveal a string of broken promises by the state authority, WAPDA, that have not been fulfilled to this day. These include:

*Alternative land*
Affected communities were provided with two types of land: residential and agricultural. Almost half those people were provided land in other provinces like Punjab and Sindh where they were alien to local culture and custom. Though they were provided with legal documents for possession, no arrangements were made for their arrival and physical takeover of the land. There were clashes between affectees and the host communities. A number of families then returned home to find their villages already submerged. They moved to the nearest relocation sites and started living there without appropriate housing or livelihood arrangements.

*Public services*
Respondents from the villages of Hamlet, Umer Khana, Garhi Mehra and Minar Kot criticised their current living conditions and the limited availability of education and health facilities in their villages. They claim that adequate health and education services were not provided for those who lost their homes.

*Livelihood and employment*
People in the local communities are not given preference in jobs when skilled or unskilled staff are hired for the new power projects. Interviewees say that even unskilled labor was brought in from other provinces during the construction of the projects.

Concerns

In this context of broken promises and continued suffering, several concerns about the World Bank and AIIB’s proposed solution to the legacy problems are immediately apparent:

**Failed process to resolve resettlement cases to date**

The World Bank and AIIB are proposing to address past harms via the same Commission that dealt with claims in the past. The record of the Commission to date bears scrutiny.

The figures are startling. A case study prepared for the World Commission on Dams\(^5\) says that of 11,000 claims received by the previous Commission, only 4.4% were deemed eligible. Yet even of this small number, the Bank’s own documents claim that just 15 of those 450 cases were settled through the Commission.

When asked to comment on the limited success of the Resettlement Commission to date, the World Bank stated: “Resettlement Claims Commission headed by a retired judge offers an independent mechanism for out-of-court settlement. RCC was mandated to address 450 cases pending in courts as of June 2010 (cut-off date). So figure of 11,000 pending cases reported in the study is not a good comparator to judge performance of RCC. Break-up of these 450 cases is given in T4 Project Appraisal Document and not all are by the affectees against WAPDA. In Round 1, RCC accepted 49 applications of which 16 were decided in

WAPDA made many promises about improving our lives but failed in even reinstating the same standard of living as before displacement. Insufficient land compensation, inappropriate alternative land arrangements and lack of employment opportunities have forced people to agitate against any new project.

Interviewee, Hamlet Village

Communities are unable to access their remaining land due to construction of dams. They communicated this matter to dam authorities several times during past decades but no action was taken.

Interviewee, Garhi Mehra
favor of claimants and remaining decided to pursue their cases through courts because out-of-court settlement couldn't be reached.16

Recommendations:

The true number of outstanding claims by affected communities has never been adequately documented. This must be a pre-requisite for any progress in resolving past legacy issues.

The efficacy of the Resettlement Commission should be independently assessed given past failures adequately to resolve outstanding claims and other options considered.

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<tr>
<th>What recommendations would help the new Commission and project authorities learn lessons from the past?</th>
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<td>During an open discussion with representatives from various villages around the T-5 project site, communities expressed the following concerns that need to be resolved:</td>
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<td>1. The government has not yet completed resettlement of those people who were displaced by the Tarbela Dam despite the fact that 48 years have passed. One generation has already died while struggling for their rights and next generation has grown older. Now the youth lack appropriate education and livelihood options and some are becoming addicted to drugs.</td>
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<td>2. Young men are not being given due consideration in employment. Authorities demand bribes and give preference to people from other areas.</td>
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<td>3. The electricity supply to the settlements of affected communities is irregular and bills are high. Those people who gave up their homes for the dam projects need affordable, subsidised energy.</td>
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<td>4. Residential plots were provided but there were no projections made of population increase. Now one family has multiplied into four units, resulting in over-crowding and unhygienic living conditions.</td>
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<td>5. No sewerage system was provided for such a large population across various settlements. Each household has dug its own pit for sewerage and this is contaminating the ground water.</td>
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<td>6. Skin diseases are now common. The communities themselves blame radiation from transmission lines already passing through their settlements; poor sanitation and hygiene are likely factors.</td>
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<td>7. Roads have not been properly designed or paved which makes mobility difficult especially for women, children and elderly.</td>
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<td>8. WAPDA acquired the land from host communities back in the mid-1960s to resettle displaced people. While some people started moving in 1968, many preferred to stay in their homes until 1974. They only left when dam authorities started filling the reservoir and the water literally reached their doorsteps. When these last evictees reached the resettlement site they were unable to find plots because the host communities had already occupied the land, despite receiving compensation for it. This caused many conflicts and violent clashes among displaced and host communities. Government authorities did not properly mediate the situation. Communities are now demanding that WAPDA must properly demarcate the boundaries of resettlement sites as per the original Resettlement Action Plan because it is difficult for affectees to claim their rights from host communities.</td>
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**Unclear budget allocation to remedy past harms**

The project documents do not make it clear how much budget has been set aside for the functioning of this Commission nor - more importantly - for the settlement of legacy claims. This is a significant cause for concern. One indication is that the budget for the Social Action Plan will be $4.2 million. However in the more detailed budget, contained in the summary of the Environmental and Social Assessment, this is no mention of a budget for settlement of past claims.

However, in response to a request for clarification from BIC, the AIIB’s Protect Team Lead responded:

“An additional USD 10 million is available under the hydropower component to cover investments in and around Tarbela and Ghazi Barotha and to deal with outstanding legacy issues from land acquisition and resettlement.”

In response to a draft of this report, the World Bank replied that “sufficient funds are available under T4 and T5 to settle these cases through out-of-court settlement mechanism.” However it is unclear, when the exact number of affectees who remain to be compensated has not yet beed accurately assessed, how the World Bank can guarantee “sufficient funds” are available.

**Recommendation:**
*Given the scale of harm and numbers of people affected by the past projects, remedy could be highly costly. If this is not acknowledged and reflected adequately in project budgets, T5 risks repeating the broken promises of the past.*

**Issue 2: Resettlement: what lessons to learn?**

The main social impacts from the project will come from the new 52km transmission line, the 160 towers that accompany this, and the new Islamabad West Grid Station.

Project documents state that: “About 226 acres of agricultural land, belonging to about 260 owners, will be acquired for construction of Islamabad West Grid station. The land acquisition will have significant impact on the livelihoods of the land owners; 50% of them depend on farming on these lands as the primary source of income.”

However, though the Islamabad West station is clearly associated with the Tarbela 5 project – because it depends upon the connecting transmission lines – the building and associated impacts of it have been removed entirely from the Tarbela 5 project. In mid-2016 the World Bank decided instead to incorporate Islamabad West into another Bank-funded project: the National Transmission Modernisation Project. Bank documents claim that a Resettlement Action Plan has been prepared for the Islamabad West grid station - however it is not publicly available.

In response to an information request to the AIIB in March 2017, BIC received the following response:

“The Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for the Islamabad West Grid Station is under review by the World Bank and will be disclosed on NTDC’s website when it has been completed. The Islamabad West Grid Station is funded under the National Transmission Modernization Project supported by the World Bank.”
**Recommendation:**

*Both the World Bank and the AIIB have clear requirements regarding 'associated facilities'.* At a minimum, given the Islamabad West grid station is clearly an associated facility of Tarbela 5, the Resettlement Action Plan for the project should be disclosed as part of the Tarbela 5 project preparation.

For the transmission line, the documents say: “The proposed 50 km T5 transmission line requires about 167 towers, in which only 32 angle tower locations are tentatively identified by NTDC.”

The World Bank “recommends” compensation for households affected by the transmission line however formal land acquisition is not a legal requirement. This is a potentially disturbing loophole in the application of World Bank policies: “The total land affected directly beneath the 50 km transmission line right of way will be about 50 acres. Historically, the land under the transmission line and corridor not been acquired by NTDC; legally it is not a requirement.”

In response to a draft of this report, however, the World Bank insisted that its standards would apply: “Regarding resettlement for the transmission line and substation in Islamabad West World Bank Policies would be applicable to ensure adequate compensation is paid. This was one of the main issues raised in the consultation sessions with the local communities during T5 project preparation. Consequently, in T5 about US$ 5 million is allocated for compensation for the transmission line component.”

**Recommendation:**

*Interviews with local communities suggest that WAPDA is only offering compensation for one crop cycle for those with land under the transmission line - despite the ongoing impacts of the transmission lines year-on-year. Community interviewees told our researcher of their difficulties and demands for adequate compensation.*

**Budget**

The project documents make a number of varying estimates for the sums needed to mitigate the environmental and social harm from T5. For example, one states that $2 million has been set aside to compensate for land loss and involuntary resettlement. However other project documents claim that up to $5 million will be available, while yet another estimate of $17 million for the total budget for social costs is outlined in the summary document because it has included Islamabad West grid station.

And yet the real impacts are not yet known. They will only be identified ‘during construction’. The project documents state: “The transmission line (TL) will span over 52 km with about 160 towers. The exact siting of towers will be finalized during the construction phase, hence exact compensation and resettlement impacts are not known at this stage [emphasis added].”

In response to a clarification request to the AIIB by BIC, the AIIB’s Project lead responded:

“The World Bank reports that the budget allocations of the USD 17 million for social aspects of the Project are as follows: (a) USD 12 million for land acquisition for Islamabad West Grid Station; and (b) USD 5 million for land acquisition for Tarbela 5 Transmission Line Project. These allocations may be adjusted during the course of project implementation depending on the need for funds and/or potential savings in costs that may be achieved.”
Recommendation:

Exact budget allocations for compensating those affected by the Tarbela 5 project are unclear from project documents, but the World Bank reports a figure of $17 million, if Islamabad West grid station is included. However the actual extent of the social impacts is not yet known, therefore setting budgets at this stage is largely theoretical. The World Bank and AIIB need to be prepared to adjust their approval of the project and its budget - and possibly increase their investment - if the scale of impacts is found to be higher than expected. Otherwise, the project risks not providing adequately for impacts borne by local communities and threatens to repeat history.

Consultation:

In the earlier projects, communities complained that authorities disregarded their lives and livelihoods almost totally. Some only heard of the project when leaflets were dropped from an aeroplane. Many evacuated their houses only when the water began to pour in, fleeing to higher ground and witnessing the destruction of their homes, crops and livestock. This was a traumatic experience, documented in extensive interviews with project-affected people in the publication ‘The Submerged Speak’.  

For the Tarbela 4 transmission line, communities told our researcher that land was acquired without having a proper plan and the route was changed many times. A number of families have been displaced twice in the last 40 years, once for Tarbela and then for the Ghazi Barotha project. In both cases the government made many promises it later broke. Communities are understandably very wary of new projects and new promises, so any consultation must be sensitive to these concerns.

On paper, the consultation process looks to be proceeding well. Project documents for the current Tarbela 5 project claim that: “Detailed consultations have been undertaken with local communities during project preparation at Tunnel 5 (power generation) and along the TL [transmission line]. The consultations included focus group discussions with women in particular. The consultations sessions highlighted their hopes, concerns and expectations from the Project and these views have been included in the development of mitigation measures under ESA.”

The Land Acquisition and Resettlement Framework (LARF) which has been prepared for Tarbela 5 is the precursor to a full Resettlement Action Plan. This will not be completed until after construction has begun and the exact route of the transmission line and towers decided. In the meantime, the LARF commits to the following disclosure and translation: “In addition, the LARF will be translated in provincial/local languages-the language the displaced persons (DPs) can easily read, and disclosed and posted onto the NTDC and IFIs websites.”

This research found that no information in Urdu or in local languages had been shared with local communities interviewed. A written request to the AIIB’s Project Lead for Tarbela 5 project for this information resulted in an attachment in Urdu being sent, a translation of the LARF. Subsequent to this request, the translation of a project summary was posted on WAPDA’s website on 2 March 2017, but is in a form of Urdu difficult to understand by local communities.

Communities visited by our researcher between November 2016 and January 2017 claimed that resettlement planning for T5 is not yet clear to them. They are still demanding that previous unresolved issues related to their displacement by Tarbela dam be heard and addressed. Community members claimed that project authorities did not properly inform them about the details of public consultations.
on T5. Some said they had attended a gathering in the main market area where they heard about the details of project. The communities felt they were not appropriately informed about the consultations. Those who did attend were there coincidentally – they happened to be in town that day to buy goods at the market.

In response to a draft of this report, the World Bank pointed out that “several schemes identified in consultation with local communities have been constructed under T4 and more have been/are being identified under T5.” The Bank also provided details of the project grievance mechanism that communities can contact in case of harm.\(^{17}\)

Women interviewed recently in the affected areas noted that project authorities do not take measures to ensure women’s genuine participation in public hearings, given women’s mobility and access is restricted due to cultural and administrative barriers.

**Recommendation:**

Local communities have not been adequately informed or involved in public consultations held for T5, and many have not had the opportunity to make their voices and concerns heard, especially women. Nor are project documents readily available in a manner accessible to local communities, despite promises to the contrary, and requirements in both World Bank and AIIB standards.\(^{18}\) It is essential that genuine efforts are made to engage and address the concerns of affected communities and to share consistent project information in a manner and language accessible to local communities.

**Gender**

The project documents make strong commitments to gender issues and the involvement of women in decision-making and project management. The Bank proposes that: “Under the Social Assistance Program, a strong gender-based approach will be taken. Community Based Organizations (CBO) will be formed at village/settlement level to hold consultations with beneficiary communities and involve them in the identification, implementation and monitoring of schemes. Women’s views will also be captured separately in each annual Beneficiary Feedback survey and used to fine tune the SAP and its implementation as appropriate.”

**Recommendation:**

Given the lack of access, mobility and voice of women in the affected areas, such commitments are welcome - however it remains to be seen whether project authorities, who are regarded by previously-affected women as having ignored their needs and concerns, will act in a sufficiently different way during T5 implementation. Particular efforts must be made to ensure the voices and concerns of women and girls are heard and addressed.

According to WAPDA officials, no construction should be done within 50 feet of transmission line. They communicate this message verbally but when it comes to compensation then they say “there is no harm from carrying out human activities under transmission lines.” I personally visited a few houses located in close proximity of the lines or towers and I observed their problems. During wet season, their mobility becomes a challenge.”

Interviewee – Hamlet Village
Implementing agencies and ‘Lessons learned’ - but are they the right ones?

The same state agencies that carried out the previous projects – WAPDA and NTDC – are also implementing Tarbela 5. There is a huge lack of trust in WAPDA both among communities affected by these earlier projects and those who actually worked for WAPDA at the time. Exhaustive interviews with project affected people in many locations, with women, men, children, elderly and youth, were carried out in 2002 by Panos Institute London, in partnership with a local organisation, the Sungi Development Foundation and published as ‘The Submerged Speak’. Allegations include that WAPDA staff did not visit affected communities to assess their assets; that WAPDA staff took bribes from affected people in return for compensation; and that WAPDA sometimes classified land as barren in order to avoid compensation.

World Bank documents for the current Tarbela 5 project say that the Environmental and Social Assessment identifies lessons from the past: “Both agencies have varying levels of experience in the implementation of environmental safeguards and therefore the ESA presents lessons learnt from other Bank funded projects by these agencies and proposes a capacity development program.”

The World Bank now commits to independent monitoring of WAPDA and NTDC - which is a welcome addition to the project which could help to ensure more accountability of those agencies.

The Environmental and Social Assessment for Tarbela 5 summarises issues, reasons and lessons from a previous comparable project, the Tarbela 4 hydropower project. These focus overwhelmingly on labour conditions - in total five of the seven “lessons learned” concern these. It is welcome that one of these reflects local concerns of the need to employ local people. It explains that previously, ‘local’ was taken to mean Pakistani, rather than those local to the project. Another lesson relates to poor maintenance of the sedimentation ponds.

The assessment lists another lesson relating to a crucial issue, that of project authorities actually implementing their environmental and social commitments. This latter lesson is key in light of the broken promises of past projects. However, it attributes the failure in implementation to not including the commitments in the contract document. The commitment now is that “It will be ensured that the ESMP [Environmental and Social Management Plan] shall be made part of the contract document.” Though including these commitments in a contract is indeed a positive step, it is highly unlikely alone to ensure effective action to ameliorate affected peoples’ lives and livelihoods.

Recommendation:
Local community members also request that project authorities to take on lessons learned from their problems with existing transmission lines and from their experiences with failed resettlement. People expressed their opposition to any new transmission line in their areas as they fear it will further restrict their lives and livelihoods.
Energy Access?

In the World Bank project documents, a section on ‘Sectoral Impact and Distribution of Benefits’ mentions the extra power supply to and reduced costs for consumers. In response to this report, the World Bank pointed out that benefits would be “shared with the provinces in the form of water usage charges/net hydel profit.” However nothing is mentioned about energy access for the poorest people, especially in the affected communities. Many are still complaining about the high cost of electricity despite having ‘sacrificed’ their homes and livelihoods to the dam.

Communities continue to report that the electricity supply in their settlements is irregular and their bills are high.

Recommendation

Given the new draft Energy Sector Strategy of the AIIB promises to promote energy access and security, through “(i) promoting, directly or indirectly, access to modern energy by those who currently have little or no access; (ii) improving the reliability of electricity supply;” the new T5 project should take into account affected communities’ wishes and ensure those who make sacrifices for the generation of extra capacity by T5 will also be guaranteed benefit-sharing.

Risk management

One of the risks identified in the WB projects documents for Tarbela 5 is: “Opposition to the Project by those with outstanding resettlement issues from the Tarbela and Ghazi Barotha Hydropower projects (NGOs included).”

However, it is disturbing how the documents propose to mitigate this risk, reflecting long-standing entrenched views from the authorities that local people should accept sacrifice for the national good: “Continued consultations and dialogue will be held to maintain a broad consensus among key stakeholders – government officials, private sector, development partners, etc. – that the Project is highly beneficial to the national economy.”

Recommendation:

It is clear from interviews with affected communities that many oppose this new project development, in part because past harms they have suffered have not been remedied, but also because they are genuinely concerned about the implications of the new transmission line on their lives and livelihoods. This is indeed a project risk which should be fully acknowledged and addressed by the authorities and project investors. Only then will appropriate mitigation, not consisting of project propaganda, be feasible.
Conclusions

Given the findings of this research, and especially the ongoing concerns of local affected communities, crucial issues that the Panel of Experts, third-party monitors, project authorities and the World Bank and AIIB should address include:

1. Remedying past harms: the World Bank and AIIB must ensure they live up to their commitments to address the social legacy of Tarbela and Ghazi Broth projects by:

   • Ensuring project authorities carry out a census of all affected people, not just those who brought claims in the past. This census should form a baseline for communication and consultation with affected communities about their concerns and needs for remedy and restitution.
   • Once the extent of numbers of cases to be resolved is known, allocating sufficient budget both to manage the cases and provide remedy.
   • Ensuring that the voices and concerns of women are sufficiently heard and addressed in any resolution of past harms.
   • Assessing whether the Resettlement Commission should be reconstituted or whether another body should be put in place, given the past failures of that Commission to resolve cases.
   • Acknowledging and acting upon the concerns of communities regarding redress, employment, sanitation, health, relocation sites, amenities and access to electricity.

2. Learning past lessons: World Bank and AIIB seek to avoid the mistakes and harms of past projects by:

   • Listening to and addressing the concerns and wishes of affected communities relating to the new project, especially the construction of the transmission line.
   • Ensuring genuine public consultations, in particular reaching out to those communities previously affected, making sure project documents have been made available to them in Urdu and local languages, in a form and manner accessible to project-affected communities.
   • Creating genuine opportunities for women to have their voices heard and their concerns addressed.
   • Ensuring Resettlement Action Plans for the transmission line and grid station are publicly available, in languages and forms accessible to local communities, and open to consultation and revision based on affected communities’ needs and concerns; and ensuring sufficient budget is allocated for compensation and redress.
   • Publicising the availability of accountability mechanisms, not only at project level, but also at both the World Bank and the AIIB, so that local communities have the opportunity to seek redress in case of harm.
End Notes

3. https://www.aiib.org/en/projects/approved/2016/_download/pakistan-tarbela-5/approved_project_summary_tarbel-5_hydropower_extension.pdf “Several legacy resettlement and land acquisition cases under both the 1970s Tarbela Dam project and the 1990s Ghazi Barotha Hydropower project have been addressed through a Resettlement Commission financed under the T4HP. This Commission will be reconstituted and financed under the WB’s Additional Financing to continue to work on remaining legacy cases under the Project.”
4. Email from Mohammad Saqib, World Bank to Kate Geary, BIC, 21 March 2017.
6. Email from Mohammad Saqib, World Bank to Kate Geary, BIC, 21 March 2017.
7. Email from Ian Nightingale, Project Team Leader T5 HEP, AIIB, to Kate Geary, BIC, 2 March 2017
8. Email from Mohammad Saqib, World Bank to Kate Geary, BIC, 21 March 2017
10. Email from Ian Nightingale, Project Team Leader T5 HEP, AIIB, to Kate Geary, BIC, 2 March 2017
11. The AIIB defines associated facilities as follows, in its Environmental and Social Framework, Feb 2016, paras. 34-35: “Associated Facilities are activities that are not included in the description of the Project set out in the agreement governing the Project, but that the Bank determines, following consultation with the Client, are: (a) directly and materially related to the Project; (b) carried out or planned to be carried out, contemporaneously with the Project; and (c) necessary for the Project to be viable and would not be constructed or expanded if the Project did not exist.” For associated facilities the AIIB is clear that its ESF standards apply: “the Client is required to comply with the requirements of the ESP and ESSs with respect to such facilities, to the extent of its control or influence…”.
12. Email from Mohammad Saqib, World Bank to Kate Geary, BIC, 21 March 2017
13. Email from Ian Nightingale, Project Team Leader T5 HEP, AIIB, to Kate Geary, BIC, 2 March 2017
15. The project documents go into great detail on who was consulted and what objections they raised; see http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/787431468290411161/pdf/SFG1900-V2-EA-P157372-Box394869B-PUBLIC-Disclosed-3-3-2016.pdf pages 435-441
17. The World Bank kindly informed us that communities can contact Mr. Muzaffar Ahmad Khan, DD Environment: project office tel/email +92 938 281175, tarbela4thext@yahoo.com for information about the project’s grievance redress mechanism.
18. The AIIB Environmental and Social Framework, for example, states, in para 57: “Information Disclosure by the Client. The Bank requires the Client to ensure that relevant information about environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project is made available in the Project area in a timely and accessible manner, and in a form and language(s) understandable to the Project-affected people, other stakeholders and the general public, so they can provide meaningful inputs into the design and implementation of the Project.”
21. Email from Mohammad Saqib, World Bank to Kate Geary, BIC, 21 March 2017