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MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANK ASSISTANCE PROPOSALS

Likely to Have Adverse Impacts on
the Environment, Natural Resources,
Public Health, and Indigenous Peoples

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Multilateral Development Banks' Assistance Proposals Likely to Have Adverse Impacts on the Environment

Introduction

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) submits this report in compliance with Title XIII of the International Financial Institutions (IFI) Act. The IFI Act instructs USAID to report to Congress on assistance proposals before the multilateral development banks that are likely to have adverse impacts on the environment, natural resources, public health, or indigenous peoples.

This report covers a five-month period (September 2014 through January 2015) and provides information regarding USAID's performance of its duties under Title XIII of the IFI Act to the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the U.S. Senate.

USAID/Washington works with its regional bureaus and field missions, as well as other U.S. Government agencies, including the Department of Treasury, the Department of State, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Office of the U.S. Executive Directors (OUSEDs) at the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs).

MDB Project Review

MDB projects with the potential for adverse environmental and social impacts are initially identified by USAID/Washington and field missions, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Department of State, Department of Treasury and other USG agencies, OUSEDs, and/or nongovernmental organizations/civil society organizations and researchers. The criteria for selecting identified MDB projects for USAID Title XIII review include consideration of the potential adverse direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on the environment, natural resources, public health, and/or indigenous peoples, as well as MDB project classification.

The MDB projects selected by USAID, in consultation with other USG agencies, for review during the period covered in this report are either candidates for financing or have been approved for financing by Multilateral Development Banks as defined in Title XIII. Projects reviewed in this report fall into one of the following categories:

1. MDB Proposals with Potential for Adverse Effects: This section includes those MDB proposals reviewed prior to Board¹ vote. The project in this section was on USAID's monitoring list but went to the Board for approval before a decision was made to conduct an affirmative investigation.

- Burma – Ayeyarwady Integrated River Basin Management Project

¹ The Board of Executive Directors (the Board) is made up of appointed or elected representatives of the Bank's member countries.

2. USAID Affirmative Investigation(s): This section includes brief descriptions of affirmative investigation(s) that USAID has conducted during the past five months. USAID and Treasury agreed that the Kholombidzo Hydropower Project would be the focus of our efforts for Q4 2014 due to potential environmental and social impacts.

- Malawi – Kholombidzo Hydropower Project

3. Future MDB Proposals with Potential Environmental and Social Impacts: An affirmative investigation is most likely to influence a project when the MDB and the project sponsor are engaged early in the proposal development process. For this reason, USAID and Treasury maintain “upstream” project lists which include projects at various stages of development. Project proposals that are chosen for these lists have the potential for adverse impacts and include: 1) projects for technical assistance or feasibility studies that have the potential to lead to additional MDB or private sector financing for project development; and/or 2) projects under discussion with various MDBs, in which a management decision has not been made on whether to bring these projects into the MDB formal appraisal process; and/or 3) projects that have not initiated the Environmental Impact Assessment/Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (EIA/ESIA) but have a pending Board date. MDB projects with ESIA are potential candidates for affirmative investigations based on the potential significant environmental and social impacts, and information presented in the ESIA. New projects include:

- Bhutan – South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation Transport, Trade Facilitation and Logistics Project (SASEC)
- Burma – Myingyan Power Generation Project (MPGP)
- Solomon Islands – Tina River Hydropower Project

To increase the effectiveness of the Title XIII process, USAID engages in the MDB project proposal process as early as possible, including through site visits and interviews with local, regional and international stakeholders. USAID continues this interaction with relevant stakeholders during the latter stages of the project proposal process, when all of the environmental and social documentation is available. USAID MDB Reports to Congress are reviewed by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Section 1

MDB Proposals with Potential for Adverse Effects

USAID’s technical review identifies proposals with potential environmental and social impacts (including potential impacts on the environment, natural resources, public health, and indigenous peoples (Section 1303)), and assesses project ESIA. Following each completed review, USAID develops recommendations regarding potential mitigation measures in an attempt to prevent and mitigate potential environmental and social impacts. USAID provides an assessment of the ESIA, as well as recommendations that might be used during ESIA development and project implementation, to the U.S. Department of Treasury for its consideration.

Burma

Ayeyarwady Integrated River Basin Management Project

Project Description

The Ayeyarwady River is Myanmar’s largest river basin, accounting for more than 60 percent of Myanmar’s landmass, providing resources to sustain 70 percent of its population living in the basin, and transporting 40 percent of its commerce.^{2,3,4} The biodiversity of the Ayeyarwady River is not well studied. However, it is reported to be home to 79 species of fish, and as of 2002, there were four known endemic bird species in the basin, and a new species of hill stream catfish was discovered in 2005.⁵ The river is habitat to the critically endangered Irrawaddy Dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) which is one of only four species of river dolphins in the world. Dolphin habitat has declined nearly 60 percent in the last century, and the recent population estimate is 59 individuals.⁶ The river empties into the Andaman Sea through a nine-armed delta which consists of a large and fertile plain that is 290 km long and 240 km wide. The lower part of the delta is a fragile and intricate ecosystem of mangrove forests and tidal estuaries, supporting a population of more than three million people. The lower part of the delta is considered the rice bowl of Burma, providing nearly 60 percent of Burma’s total rice production.⁷

Information in this paragraph concerning the World Bank’s (WB) Ayeyarwady Integrated River Basin Management Project is obtained from the World Bank’s Project Appraisal Document.⁸ The project’s objective is to “strengthen integrated, climate resilient management and development of the Ayeyarwady River Basin” while contributing to the

² World Bank Project Appraisal Document. (2014). On A Proposed Credit In The Amount Of Sdr 67.5 Million (Us\$100 Million Equivalent) To The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar For An Ayeyarwady Integrated River Basin Management Project.

³

http://www.narbo.jp/data/01_events/materials%285thgm%29/ws4_Improving_Water_Security/424_NARBO_Family_News/01_About_ARBRO_by_Prof_Dr_Khin_Ni_Ni_Thein_18May2013.pdf

⁴ Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems (2014) Myanmar Ayeyarwady Integrated River Basin Management Project Environmental and Social Management Framework. Draft Executive Summary.

⁵

http://www.narbo.jp/data/01_events/materials%285thgm%29/ws4_Improving_Water_Security/424_NARBO_Family_News/01_About_ARBRO_by_Prof_Dr_Khin_Ni_Ni_Thein_18May2013.pdf

⁶

http://www.narbo.jp/data/01_events/materials%285thgm%29/ws4_Improving_Water_Security/424_NARBO_Family_News/01_About_ARBRO_by_Prof_Dr_Khin_Ni_Ni_Thein_18May2013.pdf

⁷ <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=8767>

development of integrated river basin management on the Ayeyarwady River. The project consists of multiple phases. The first phase of the project is expected to provide support in three areas: 1) help establish a river basin planning framework to enable sound water-related infrastructure investments, potentially including private sector financing for large hydropower projects; 2) hydromet⁹ services and disaster risk management to improve weather predictability capacity to support climate vulnerable groups; and 3) inland water transport improvements, primarily in the Western North-South Corridor (Yangon- Pyay-Magway), to support shipping transportation. Additionally, it is expected that the first phase will support pre-feasibility, feasibility and other upstream technical studies for priority infrastructure investments that will be primarily identified in the course of a basin planning framework for potential funding in subsequent phases. The second and third phases (yet to be defined) will examine the initiation of large scale infrastructure works.

Financing

The WB Board approved \$100 million for project financing on December 9, 2014.

USAID Review

Prior to the Board vote, USAID reviewed the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).¹⁰ USAID appreciates the effort the WB has made to assist the Government of Burma in developing an integrated river basin planning approach; however, the project is classified as Category A and includes construction of navigational enhancements such as in-channel structures to direct flow and dredging, which can cause significant environmental impacts. Therefore, an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment should have accompanied the ESMF. Based on the technical review of the ESMF and the WB requirements for an ESMF, USAID concerns¹¹ are listed below.

General issues:

- Since the project has the potential to permanently change the river flow, prior to project design and the start of construction, environmental and social baseline data should be collected, within an appropriate time frame for analysis and consultations with stakeholders, to determine avoidance and/or mitigation measures. The ESMF does not provide discussion of the type of data that will be collected, the scope of data collection or the timeframe for its collection, analysis and consultations.

⁸ World Bank Project Appraisal Document. (2014). On A Proposed Credit In The Amount Of Sdr 67.5 Million (Us\$100 Million Equivalent) To The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar For A Ayeyarwady Integrated River Basin Management Project.

⁹ Hydromet is term used in Myanmar and in the WB project document and refers to hydro-meteorology.

¹⁰ An instrument that examines the issues and impacts associated when a project consists of a program and/or series of sub-projects, and the impacts cannot be determined until the program or sub-project details have been identified. The ESMF sets out the principles, rules, guidelines and procedures to assess the environmental and social impacts. It contains measures and plans to reduce, mitigate and/or offset adverse impacts and enhance positive impacts, provisions for estimating and budgeting the costs of such measures, and information on the agency or agencies responsible for addressing project impacts.

¹¹ Submitted to Treasury on December 5, 2014.

- Examples of the type of environmental baseline data that should be collected include aquatic species such as fisheries and invertebrates that communities are dependent upon, in addition to threatened and endangered species, such as the critically endangered Irrawaddy Dolphin. Other types of data that should be collected would include sediment profile of the river to screen for toxic materials, environmental flows, geomorphology and sedimentation budget.
- Given the potential downstream impacts of construction and navigational enhancements, data collection and assessment, as described above, should include the downstream reaches of the Ayeryarwady River, which would encompass wetlands and the Ayeryarwady Delta. Predicted climate change scenarios are expected to have negative socio-economic impacts throughout the country. The Ayeyarwady River and Delta are identified as vulnerable areas due to cyclones, intense rain, flood/storm surge and sea-level rise.¹² Therefore, since the objective of this project is integrated climate resilience of the river basin, it will be important to determine the type of data that needs to be collected and the time frame for adequate analysis and consultations as part of the project design.

Ethnic minorities:¹³

- There is an absence of clear information as to how ethnic minorities who will potentially be affected by the project will have access to public participation/consultations, and how project information will be conveyed to these communities; as well as
- An absence of meaningful consultations using measures to determine the ability of these ethnic minorities to fully understand the implications of the various projects on their livelihoods, and the lack of access to a mechanism to provide their input.

Additional issues:

- USAID is concerned about the absence of a provision to appoint an independent panel of experts for either oversight of the entire basin's development and for subsequent Category A projects, given the intersection with ethnic minorities and biodiversity; and
- The absence of adequate baseline data and analysis to assess potential cumulative and associated facilities impacts, prior to supporting Sub-category B projects.

Board Vote

The Department of Treasury, based on input from USAID and its own analysis of the project, instructed the U.S. Executive Director to abstain on the project because of inconsistencies with the Pelosi Amendment.

¹² Myanmar's National Adaptation Program of Action – Climate Change. 2012.

¹³ Burma's ethnic minorities would fall under the World Bank's definition of Indigenous Peoples and as such should be provided all of the protections afforded under the World Bank Operational Policy 4.10 – Indigenous Peoples.

Section 2

USAID Affirmative Investigation(s)

This section includes brief descriptions of affirmative investigation(s) that USAID has conducted during the past five months. Affirmative investigations are carried out as part of USAID's due diligence responsibilities under the International Financial Institutions Act, Title XIII, Section 1303(a)(3), which requires USAID to review MDB projects that are particularly likely to have substantial adverse environmental and social impacts. Reports for each affirmative investigation, along with environmental and social recommendations based on the site visits, stakeholder discussions and available documentation, will be provided to the public when finalized.

Malawi

Kholombidzo Hydropower Project

The African Development Bank (AfDB) approved financing for the Government of Malawi (GoM) in 2013 to conduct a feasibility assessment of the proposed Kholombidzo Hydropower Project (HPP). The Kholombidzo HPP is located in the middle Shire River Basin, on the Shire River, approximately 50 km downstream of the Kamuzu Barrage. This project would replace the Nkulu HPP as the first hydropower facility in the Shire River hydropower cascade.

To critically address the prevailing and projected power requirements for the country, while at the same time ensuring that the system's reliability is improved, the GoM has prepared a number of proposals, including one to conduct a feasibility study for the development of the Kholombidzo Hydropower plant. This project has been identified in previous studies as a potential least-cost option for the expansion of the power generation system and increasing access to electricity by rural communities. The Kholombidzo Hydropower Project is a priority in the GoM's recently launched Economic Recovery Plan.

This project has a long history, as it was originally under consideration by the WB. The original generation potential of 370 MW consists of an approximately 75 m high dam (measured above the river bed), which would regulate water levels to the same height as the Kamuzu Barrage, resulting in approximately 250 km² of land flooded and the likely resettlement of 8,000 people.¹⁴ The WB dropped consideration of this early project proposal based on the original design and the significant environmental and social impacts. The AfDB approved financing of the project's feasibility study after the project was revised to a lower dam height (TBD) producing 140 to 280 MW in the dry/rainy season, instead of the initial 160 to 370 MW.

¹⁴ Southern African Institute for Environmental Assessment. (2009). Lake Malawi Level Control – Integrated Water Resources Development Plan for Lake Malawi and Shire River System.

The proposed Kholombidzo HPP Feasibility Study is expected to update the previous studies undertaken from 1985 to 1998, as well as use the information from the Integrated Water Resources Development Plan for both Lake Malawi and Shire River System to confirm the optimal location and layout for the power plant. The contractors will produce a detailed feasibility study to seek financing for the project and preliminary designs for the optimal layout that could be used in sourcing financing for project implementation. The feasibility study is expected to cover the following areas listed below:¹⁵

- Compilation and initial review of previous documents and data;
- Hydrology – Assessment of the hydrological parameters for the project based on available database and verification the quality of available data;
- Topography – Preparation of digital maps for the whole project area (which should be checked by ground surveys);
- Geology – Conducting detailed geological investigations;
- Power Simulation – Carrying out energy production simulation, for different reservoir volumes and for different discharge rates;
- Project Layout – Proposing optimum power house and dam layout with the aim of utilizing the power potential of the site;
- Load Forecast – Reviewing and updating the load forecast;
- Multipurpose use of the dam – Verification of whether the dam can also be used for water supply purposes;
- ESIA and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) – Conduct detailed ESIA and RAP for the project; and
- Transmission System – Conduct selection of optimum voltage and optimum connection point with the national grid.

The ESIA will also identify climate change impacts of developing the project and how such impacts can be mitigated.

USAID conducted an affirmative investigation of the proposed project in December 2014 due to potential impacts of resettlement and cumulative environmental and social impacts of the hydropower cascade on the middle and lower Shire River and associated wetlands. USAID/Washington staff, accompanied by Department of Treasury, Department of State, and USAID/Malawi staff, conducted a visit to the proposed sites and surrounding areas of the Kholombidzo Hydropower Project. Additionally, areas in the lower and upper Shire River Basin were also visited. The team met with various GoM ministries, World Bank and AfDB representatives, and community members in proximity to the Kholombidzo Hydropower Project. Other members of communities in the lower Shire River Basin were consulted to get a better understanding of the environmental and social issues in that region. Information obtained from the site visit and documentation will be used to provide recommendations to the AfDB and GoM to improve the project's social and environmental components during development of the project.

¹⁵ http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Project-and-Operations/Malawi_-_Kholombidzo_Hydro_Electric_Power_Plant_Feasibility_Study_-_Appraisal_Report.pdf

Section 3

Future MDB Proposals with Potential Environmental and Social Impacts

USAID monitors the status of some projects in the project proposal process. These projects may not yet be in the MDB pipelines, may not have initiated the ESIA, and/or may not be scheduled for a board vote. USAID will monitor the status of these proposals, which may be considered for future affirmative investigations; updated information will be provided when available. Criteria used to select projects to be monitored include potential impacts on biodiversity, environment/natural resources, indigenous peoples, and/or public health, as well as potential adverse cumulative environmental and social impacts. This list is not inclusive of all projects that could have adverse environmental and social impacts, but it provides an overview of the types of projects that USAID is monitoring.

Projects recently added to USAID's monitoring list:

- Bhutan – South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation Transport, Trade Facilitation and Logistics Project (SASEC) (potential Asian Development Bank, ADB, financing)

The SASEC Transport, Trade Facilitation and Logistics Project is designed to improve transport efficiency and cross-border trade by: (i) rehabilitating existing roads and constructing missing link sections on the strategic southern east-west highway between Lhamoizingkha and Sarpang; and (ii) constructing new logistics and cross-border facilities at selected locations in Phuentsholing, Nganglam and Gelephu. The project will have three outputs: 1) improved road network; 2) improved logistics and trade facilitation facilities; and 3) enhanced capacity of implementing agencies to operate and maintain the road network and trade facilitation facilities and related equipment. The project is intended to improve the efficiency of land transportation with more efficient and secure cross-border trade. The potential implementing agencies for the road component and trade facilitation component are the Department of Roads and Department of Revenue and Customs, respectively. The project is expected to be implemented from 2016 to 2022.

The proposed road is planned to traverse the Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary (PWS). The PWS is the only sanctuary in Bhutan that has natural sal forests¹⁶ and is a prime habitat of Chital deer and the spotted deer *Axis Axis*. Other wildlife occurring in the

¹⁶ The Himalayan Subtropical Broadleaf Forests ecoregion includes several forest types, including sal (*Shorea robusta*) forest, along its length as it traverses an east to west moisture gradient. The sal tree is considered valuable since it is used in construction, a source of fuel wood and fodder. There is little information on this species in Bhutan and the southernmost portion of Bhutan may be the last natural refuge under climate change scenarios. Gyaltsen D., Wangda P., and B. Suberi (2014). Structure and Composition of the Natural Sal (*Shorea robusta Gaertner f.*) Forest, Gomtu, Southern Bhutan. Bhutan Jrnl. Natural Resources & Development.

PWS include tigers, Asian elephants, gaur and golden langurs. The PWS borders India from the Sunkosh River in the west to Sanathang River in the east. In the southern belt, PWS is connected to Indian protected areas – Petu Reserve Forest, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Ripu- Chirang Reserve Forest, and Dhaneshi Ridge.¹⁷

USAID is following this project due to potential impacts on biodiversity.

- Burma – Myingyan Power Generation Project (MPGP) (potential World Bank Group financing)

As part of the World Bank Group's (WBG's) continued support to Burma's power sector, this proposed project aims to facilitate the development of new power generation capacity by the private sector. The proposed Myingyan Power Generation Project combines financial advisory support from International Finance Corporation (IFC) and an International Development Association (IDA) Guarantee to mitigate selected risks facing private sector lenders and investors to Myanmar. This is a second WBG-supported project, following the Myanmar Electric Power Project. Although it is not designed as a direct access to electricity project, it is a part of the WBG's broader support to expand electricity access in Myanmar. This project will utilize high efficiency Combined Cycle Gas Turbine technology, which is the least-cost approach to rapidly increase electricity production from natural gas, while minimizing CO₂ emissions.¹⁸

Although no resettlement is envisioned, the World Bank Project Information Document indicates that Performance Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources could be triggered. Unless the power plant employs air cooling technology, a 10 to 15 km water pipeline and pumping station(s) will be needed to bring water from the Ayeyarwady River to the project site, and for return discharge. The quantity of water required will be determined by the bidders, depending on power plant specifications.

USAID is following this project due to potential impacts on biodiversity.

- Solomon Islands – Tina River Hydropower Project (potential WB financing)

The proposed Tina River Hydropower Project consists of two components: 1) a hydropower facility (HPF) with an installed capacity of 20 MW, to be developed and operated by an independent power producer (IPP) under a 30-year concession to sell power to the Solomon Islands Electricity Authority under a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA); and 2) technical assistance to the Solomon Islands Government to monitor and support project implementation and to develop a benefit sharing scheme.

¹⁷

http://www.wfbhutan.org/projects/_bhutan_biological_conservation_complex/phibsoo_wildlife_sanctuary_
<http://www.thebhutanese.bt/expediting-the-internal-highway-in-the-south/>

¹⁸ <http://www->

wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/08/22/000333037_20140822123131/Rendered/PDF/900810PID023Ju00Box385304B00PUBLIC0.pdf

The 20 MW HPP will be located on the Tina River, east of Honiara, comprising a 50 m-high roller-compacted-concrete dam located in a narrow gorge on the river; a 3.3 km headrace tunnel, 3 m in diameter, to convey water from the dam to the power station; a powerhouse about 3 by 4 km downstream from the dam site that will house 4x5 MW Francis turbine machines, and two parallel 33 kV single circuit transmission lines connecting the power station to the existing Lungga diesel power station. The WB will offer a guarantee of up to \$20 million to the successful bidder, backstopping certain payment obligations of the government for the project.¹⁹

The proposed hydropower facility is situated on the Tina River, a tributary of the Ngalimbiu River, on the North of Guadalcanal. The Ngalimbiu flows to the Iron Bottom Sound about 15 kilometers east of the capital, Honiara. Solomon Islands is recognized for high species diversity and high levels of endemism, although the biodiversity resources of freshwater systems in Solomon Islands are currently not well known. At least 27 fish species from three sites collection sites on the Tina River have been identified. Additionally, Solomon Islands forests are recognized as “Globally Outstanding” and are included as an eco-region in the Global 200 listing.²⁰ The Solomon Islands form part of the Coral Triangle of four countries with high levels of marine biodiversity. A considerable proportion of the subsistence sector depends on key biodiversity either directly or indirectly. The project is located on tribal land and resettlement is expected.²¹ USAID is following this project due to potential impacts on biodiversity and indigenous people.

Projects discussed in earlier MDB Reports to Congress that are still being followed:

- *Bhutan – Nikachhu HPP (ADB financed approved in 2014)*
- *Botswana – BCL Coal Plant (potential AfDB financing)*
- *Cameroon – Nachtigai Hydropower Project (potential IFC financing)*
- *Colombia – Ituango Hydropower Project (potential IDB financing)*
- *Ethiopia – Regional Pastoral Resilience Livelihood Project (WB approved in 2006)*
- *Guatemala – Land Administration Project II (WB approved 2006, potential for additional financing and expansion of the project)*
- *Indo-Nepal Transmission Line (potential IFC financing)*
- *Indonesia – Regional Road Development II Project (potential ADB financing)*
- *Indonesia – Scaling Up Hydropower Development (potential ADB financing)*
- *Kenya – Lamu Port, Southern Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (AfDB-financed road study, potential additional AfDB financing)*
- *Laos – Nam Theun 2 Hydropower Expansion*
- *Laos – Vietnam Power Interconnection Project (potential AfDB financing)*

¹⁹ [http://www-](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/12/24/000442464_20141224110848/Rendered/PDF/AB76670PID0P1527790Box385406B00PUBLIC0.pdf)

[wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/12/24/000442464_20141224110848/Rendered/PDF/AB76670PID0P1527790Box385406B00PUBLIC0.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/12/24/000442464_20141224110848/Rendered/PDF/AB76670PID0P1527790Box385406B00PUBLIC0.pdf)

²⁰ The Global Ecoregions is a science-based global ranking of the Earth's most biologically outstanding terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats. It provides a critical blueprint for biodiversity conservation at a global scale.

²¹ <http://tina-hydro.com/The%20Tina%20River%20Hydropower%20Development%20Project>

- *Liberia – Dugbe Gold Project (\$8.8 million IFC equity investment for feasibility studies, potential subsequent IFC investments)*
- *Mongolia – Regional Transport Development Project (potential ADB financing)*
- *Mongolia – Orkhon River Diversion Project (potential WB financing)*
- *Mozambique – Mphanda Nkuwa Hydropower Project (potential IFC and AfDB financing)*
- *Multinational: Study on the Ouesso-Bangui-N’djamena Road and Inland Navigation on the Congo, Oubangui and Sangha Rivers (AfDB – Technical assistance approved in 2012, potential for financing part of the construction activities)*
- *Nepal – Energy Access and Efficiency Improvement Project III (potential ADB financing)*
- *Regional – North-South Corridor: DRC, Zambia, South Africa (potential AfDB, WB financing)*
- *Regional Isaka – Kigali railway: Burundi, Tanzania, Rwanda (potential AfDB financing)*
- *Samoa – Port Master Plan and Submarine Cable to Fiji (potential ADB financing)*
- *Vietnam - Second GMS Southern Coastal Corridor Project (potential ADB additional financing)*

Should information become available that indicates that these projects may have significant adverse impacts, USAID will consider an affirmative investigation.