

Combined Resettlement and Indigenous Peoples Plans

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India: Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project in Assam - Additional Financing

District: Biswanath, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Sonitpur, Nagaon, Morigaon, Kamrup, Barpeta, Dhubri and Goalpara.

(Main Report)

Prepared by the State Government of Assam (Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam) for the Asian Development Bank (ADB). This is an updated version of the draft originally posted in October 2025 available on <https://www.adb.org/projects/documents/ind-56283-002-remdp>

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 1 August 2025)

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\$1.00	=	₹87.67

ABBREVIATIONS

AADB	-	Assam Agroforestry Development Board
ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
AH	-	Affected Households
AIFRERMIP	-	Assam Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program
AP	-	Affected Person
ASDMA	-	Assam State Disaster Management Authority
BSC	-	Basic Schedule of Rate
CEO	-	Chief Executive Officer
CPR	-	Common Property Resources
CRBIFRERMIP	-	Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project
CTO	-	Chief Technical Officer
DLLPC	-	District Level Land Purchase Committee
DMS	-	Detailed Measurement Survey
DP	-	Displaced Person
DPR	-	Detailed Project Report
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
FREMAA	-	Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam
GRC	-	Grievance Redress Committee
GRM	-	Grievance Redress Mechanism
IP	-	Indigenous People
NGO	-	Nongovernment Organization
O&M	-	Operation and Maintenance
PIU	-	Project Implementation Unit
PISC	-	Project Implementation Support Consultant
PWD	-	Public Works Department
R&R	-	Resettlement and Rehabilitation
RF	-	Resettlement Framework
RFCTLARR	-	Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act-2013
SC	-	Scheduled Caste
SGoA	-	State Government of Assam
SIA	-	Social Impact Assessment
SDS	-	Social Development Specialist

SPS	- Safeguard Policy Statement
ST	- Scheduled Tribe
WB	- World Bank
WRD	- Water Resources Department

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GLOSSARY

Cut-off Date: For titleholders in case of land acquisition, the date of publication of preliminary notification for acquisition under section 11 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act – 2013, and/or the date of publication of notification under State Government land purchase policy is treated as the cut-off date. In case of non-titleholders, the date of start of census survey is the cut-off date.

Displaced Persons: In the context of involuntary resettlement, displaced persons are those who are physically displaced (relocation, loss of residential land, or loss of shelter) and/or economically displaced (loss of land, assets, access to assets, income sources, or means of livelihoods) as a result of (i) involuntary acquisition of land, or (ii) involuntary restrictions on land use or on access to legally designated parks and protected areas.

Economic Displacement: Loss of land, assets, access to assets, income sources, or means of livelihoods as a result of (i) involuntary acquisition of land, or (ii) involuntary restrictions on land use or on access to legally designated parks and protected areas.

Eksonia: Eksonia means annual Patta. Eksonia landholders have only possessory rights valid for one – three-year periods, in rural and urban areas respectively. These rights are not legally transferable or heritable

Not significant Impact: Where the impact on land is less than 10 percent of the total area or impact on structure is partial and does not required relocation.

Meaningful Consultation: A process that (i) begins early in the project preparation stage and is carried out on an ongoing basis throughout the project cycle; (ii) provides timely disclosure of relevant and adequate information that is understandable and readily accessible to affected people; (iii) is undertaken in an atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion; (iv) is gender inclusive and responsive, and tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups; and (v) enables the incorporation of all relevant views of affected people and other stakeholders into decision making, such as project design, mitigation measures, the sharing of development benefits and opportunities, and implementation issues.

Physical Displacement: Relocation, loss of residential land, or loss of shelter as a result of (i) involuntary acquisition of land, or (ii) involuntary restrictions on land use or on access to legally designated parks and protected areas.

Vulnerable groups: include holders of Antodya Cards, the landless, the elderly, women and children, indigenous peoples, and those without legal title to land.

Significant Impact: Loss of shelter to the extent that relocation is required or losing more than 10% of their productive assets (income generating).

Solatium: Solatium is the amount given as a consolation. Under RFCTLARR Act, the solatium amount prescribed for calculation is 100% of the market value estimated as compensation for land and structure.

Zirat: Valuation of non-land/immovable assets like house, tree, well, pond etc. by the District Administration with the help from concerned departments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Background

1. State Government of Assam (SGoA) has established the Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA) to demonstrate holistic and sustainable Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management. Asian Development Bank has partnered with FREMAA to support its program and capacity building. As a follow-on Project, the State Government of Assam (SGoA) through Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Government of India (GoI) has requested for external assistance prioritized for protection by improving key flood and riverbank erosion risk management (FRERM) infrastructure, such as flood embankments, riverbank protection, and flood management structures, and by enhancing or introducing a range of nonstructural protective measures to development capacity at state and local communities level. The title of this investment is Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project in Assam (CRBIFRERMP).

2. The ADB-supported Assam Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program (AIFRERMIP), implemented by the Flood and Riverbank Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA) and the Water Resources Department (WRD) from 2010 to 2020, introduced several key innovations. Building on this foundation, the Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project (CRBIFRERMP) continue these vital efforts, with an enhanced focus on climate resilience. The project combines structural and nonstructural measures in four high-priority flood- and erosion prone areas to contribute to the broader stabilization of the river with three major outputs: (i) Climate resilient flood and riverbank erosion risk mitigation measures implemented and maintained in sub project areas; (ii) Knowledge-based FRERM planning strengthened; and (iii) Vulnerable people's livelihoods and resilience improved. The project was initially implemented in five targeted districts as Kamrup, Morigaon, Goalpara, Tinsukia and Dibrugarh. However, in the later stage three additional districts were taken as Sonitpur, Biswanath and Lakhimpur to implement additional high priority works.

3. The ongoing project activities under CRBIFRERMP is now in its second year of implementation. Through implementation, the project management unit (FREMAA) and implementing agency (WRD) have gained useful experience in executing larger river stabilization works. This revealed the need for strategic, stage-wise planning and execution, rather than piecemeal measures, to achieve sustainable stabilization along the Brahmaputra River in Assam. The expected enhancement of safety and livelihood resilience aligns with the objectives and outcomes envisaged in the ongoing phase.

4. A long-term vision on stabilization of the Brahmaputra River in Assam has been prepared under CRBIFRERMP, outlining a core vision and this vision includes preventing erosion beyond the corridor, limiting flooding to designated areas like beels and wetlands, and optimizing development, ecological, socio-economic, and environmental services in both short-term and long-term perspectives. As a continuation of the ongoing, CRBIFRERMP (Phase I), Government of Assam and ADB has identified more additional districts located towards the north and south banks of Brahmaputra which are vulnerable and prone to severe river erosion. Owing to the nature of severe, continuous and frequent erosion, Government of Assam requested ADB to expand the scope to include all identified key reaches, along the south and north banks of the Brahmaputra River in Assam, covering 13 more districts stretching from Dhemaji to Dhubri. The outcomes of

the additional financing include strides towards mitigating flood and erosion hazards, which will support the state's overall development.

5. Under CRBIFRERMP (Phase I), resettlement plans for five subproject districts under were prepared based on the detailed design report (DPR) in the year 2022. An additional combined Resettlement Indigenous peoples plan (RIPP) was also prepared under Phase I to cover some high priority stretches in early 2025. There are five RPs and one RIPP has already been prepared and under implementation. No further RP/RIPP is prepared retrospectively under the Project. For the additional financing under CRBIFRERMP, this combined draft Resettlement and Indigenous Peoples Plan (RIPP) as agreed by ADB is prepared for all the proposed 13 districts. This draft RIPP is prepared according to the feasibility study carried out by WRD and FREMAA with the support from Project Implementation Support Consultant and based on Social Impact assessment survey and site-specific consultations/FGDs. The draft RIPP will be updated based on any changes on scope of work as required before contract award and commencement of civil work. Further, keeping in view the changing nature of the river where erosion is a continuous phenomenon, this draft RIPP will be updated based on the verified database of actual APs after next onslaught of monsoon, including any changes in project alignment or impacts due to fresh erosion.

6. This RIPP is prepared in line with applicable resettlement policies of State Government of Assam, Government of India, and the ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). This project is considered as Category 'A' for Involuntary Resettlement (IR) and Category 'B' for Indigenous Peoples (IP) safeguard requirements as per the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009).

Scope of Land Acquisition and Resettlement

7. The structural measures such as river-bank protection and flood embankment components of the sub-project will involve land acquisition resulting in physical or economic displacement of riverine communities. The impacts include 984 households, out of which 413 have been identified as vulnerable households, in addition, 693 HHs are envisaged to have impact on their livelihood. These 984 HHs also include 93 squatters HHs having impact on 202 structures. The total land requirement across all 13 subproject districts is measuring to 601.09 acres. Of this, 431.29 acres (representing 71.75%), are recorded as Government land. Additionally, 141.23 acres, or 23.50%, are classified as private revenue land, while 28.57 acres, accounting for 4.75%, are recorded as Eksonia (periodic lease) land, as per revenue records.

8. The households affected due to acquisition of private land are losing only land and no structure belonging to any of the titleholders are affected. The physically displaced households (155) comprise of those households (62) losing their residential land and primary residential structures and (93) non-titleholders losing only structures need relocation due to the project activities. The economically displaced households (828), including loss of agricultural land, and other productive assets. There is 1 (one) households identified and envisaged to be displaced both physically and economically by losing their residential structure cum commercial structures.

Socioeconomic Information and Profile

9. The survey reveals that there are 4522 displaced persons in total, which includes 2688 (59.44%) male and 1834 (40.56%) female. The average household size is 4.06. The sex ratio Assam as per 2011 census of India survey is 958. According to project census survey, there are

413 vulnerable households affected by the project. The educational status of DPs reveals that 22.62% of DPs are still illiterate in the project area.

Subproject Impact on Indigenous Peoples

10. There are 3.88 million tribal people in Assam, which accounts for 12.45% of the total population as per census 2011. Tribals are living throughout the state; but in certain districts such as Dima Hasao, Karbi Anglong, Dhemaji, Baksa, Chirang, Udalguri, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur and Goalpara, tribal predominance is significantly high. To protect the interests of the tribal population, provision of the Sixth Schedule is enshrined in the Constitution of India under Articles 244(2) and 275(1) to enable autonomous administration of the tribal areas of Assam. Six tribal districts of Assam: Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao, Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa and Udalguri have been declared as the Scheduled Areas. The sub project districts are not falling within the sixth scheduled areas of Assam. Considering the tribal people as vulnerable or DAG, special assistance provision has been made in the entitlement matrix of this RIPP, and no separate Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) is prepared for this sub project.

11. There are 132 (ST) households are envisaged to be affected across 6 districts, out of 13 districts namely, Morigaon, Biswanath, Dhemaji, Sivasagar, Golaghat and Lakhimpur district under this project. These households will partially lose their land. The Project will benefit them by protecting their remaining land from disastrous flooding and erosion. Some households are losing their non-land assets too. However, those who having partial impact will be paid with compensation and assistance as provided by the Project. For the vulnerable group, special assistance and provisions has been made in the entitlement matrix of this RIPP.

Stakeholders Consultation and Participation

12. During the resettlement survey, FGDs were conducted in affected villages along the project alignment. The participants in these FGDs are not limited to the place of meeting or DPs only but also included the other interested parties from the affected villages and beneficiaries under the Project. The survey team pre informed the village head and invited all villagers to attend the FGD on a pre-fixed date and interested persons have attended the meeting accordingly.

13. In addition to individual consultations held with all displaced households during the census survey, a total of 21 general consultations/Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted across various project locations. These FGDs engaged a total of 336 participants, comprising 243 males (72.32%) and 93 females (27.68%), who were consulted during the sessions. In addition to the 21 general FGDs 11 numbers of women centric FGDs were also conducted different locations of the project sites comprising 124 participants.

Legal Framework

14. The legal framework and principles adopted for addressing resettlement issues in the project have been guided by the existing legislation and policies of the Government of India (GOI), the Government of Assam and Asian Development Bank. Prior to the preparation of the resettlement plan, a detailed analysis of the existing national and state policies was undertaken and described in chapter-VI. This resettlement plan is prepared based on the review and analysis of all applicable legal and policy frameworks of the country and ADB policy requirements. Land will be procured through using the Land Acquisition through Direct Purchase by way of Negotiated Settlement for Public Purpose of all Departments in the State of Assam dated 7th March 2022.

However, in case of land with uncleared title or ownership dispute, for which consent to sell cannot be obtained from the owners, the land will be acquired through RFCTLARR-2013. In such cases the compensation amount will be deposited in an escrow account, which will be set up under the Project and the amount will be released once the ownership dispute is resolved and established. All compensation and other assistances will be paid to all DPs prior to physical and economic displacement and commencement of civil works. After payment of compensation, DPs would be allowed to take away the materials salvaged from their dismantled houses and shops and no charges will be levied upon them for the same. The value of salvaged materials will not be deducted from the overall compensation amount due to the DPs.

Entitlements, Assistance and Benefits

15. For titleholders in case of land acquisition, the date of publication of preliminary notification for acquisition under section 11 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation Act – 2013 (RFCTLARR Act, 2013) and/or such notification under the State Government land purchase policy will be treated as the cut-off date. For non-titleholders, the cut-off date will be the start of the census survey which is 5th July 2025. The structures affected under the project will be compensated at replacement cost. DPs who settle in the affected areas after the cut-off date will not be eligible for compensation. They, however, will be given sufficient advance notice, to vacate premises and dismantle affected structures prior to project implementation. Their dismantled structures materials will not be confiscated, and they will not pay any fine or suffer any sanction.

Relocation of Housing and Settlements

16. There are 155 households which will be losing their primary residential structure and therefore require relocation. The executing agency will provide cash compensation at full replacement cost and other assistance as per the RFCTLARR Act-2013 to the titleholders. The executing agency will compensate the non-titleholders for the loss of assets other than land, such as dwellings, and for other improvements to the land, at full replacement cost, and subsistence allowance, shifting assistance, and vulnerable assistance etc. The entitlements to the non-titleholders will be given only if they occupied the land or structures in the project area prior to the cut-off date. For non-titleholders DPs, the Project will arrange relocation sites in consultation with District Administration.

Income Restoration and Rehabilitation

17. There are 693 households losing their primary source of livelihoods. These 693 households are comprising of those losing agricultural land and income generating business/commercial structures under the project. The project impact reveals 684 households will lose agricultural land and one HHs will have impact on commercial structure and two HH will lose one residential cum commercial structure. There are 6 employees in one commercial structure also losing their livelihoods. The entitlement proposed for the project has provisions for restoration of livelihood of the affected persons.

Resettlement Budget and Financing Plan

18. The resettlement cost estimate for this project includes eligible compensation at market value as per the RFCTLARR Act-2013, resettlement assistance as per the Project entitlement matrix and support cost for resettlement plan implementation. The support cost, which includes

staffing requirement, monitoring and reporting, involvement of RIPP implementation support agency in project implementation and other administrative expenses are part of the overall project cost. Contingency provisions have also been made to take into account variations from this estimate. The total budget for resettlement plan implementation is estimated to be INR 675.41 million and will be borne by the State Government, except the amount of INR 32 million for engagement of RIPP implementation NGO and INR 6 million for engagement of External Monitor which will be a part of ADB loan in this project for hiring the services of RIPP implementation NGO and hiring of External Monitoring Expert.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism

19. A project-specific grievance redress mechanism (GRM) has been established under CRBIFRERMP and the same will be functional for proposed CRBIFRERMP (Additional Financing) to receive, evaluate, and facilitate the resolution of displaced people's concerns, complaints, and grievances about the social and environmental performance at the level of the Project. The GRM is aimed at providing a time-bound and transparent mechanism to voice and resolve social and environmental concerns linked to the project. A three tier GRM process has already been adopted under this Project. The GRM procedures are publicly advertised and publicized for use by the stakeholders.

Institutional Arrangement

20. FREMAA being the executing agency of the ongoing CRBIFRERMP will remain same for the proposed CRBIFRERMP (Additional financing) assisted by ADB will lead the contract administration, monitoring, and reporting aspects of the project through a Project Management Unit (PMU) based in Guwahati. The proposed ADB-financed project is headed by a full-time Project Director, potentially of the rank of Chief Executive Officer (CEO). A sub project level PIU has been established, which will be functional for the whole Project duration. The PMU will be hired RIPP implementation support agency for supporting it in implementation of R&R activities.

Implementation Schedule

21. The proposed R&R activities under CRBIFRERMP (Additional Financing) are divided into three broad categories based on the stages of work and process of implementation such as Project Preparation phase, Resettlement Plan Implementation phase and Monitoring and Reporting phase. The time for implementation of resettlement plan will be scheduled as per the overall project implementation. Civil work will commence only in sections where compensation and relocation have been completed.

Monitoring and Reporting

22. The responsibility of resettlement plan implementation will be to lie with FREMAA. Keeping in view the significance of resettlement impacts of the overall project, the monitoring mechanism for this project will have both internal monitoring by PMU and PIU, and external monitoring by an external expert. PIU will be responsible for supervision and implementation of the RIPP which will prepare monthly progress reports on resettlement activities and submit to PMU. FREMAA will submit semi-annual resettlement plan monitoring reports to ADB. The external monitoring will provide guidance to FREMAA, its employer, on compliance issues and will submit a semi-annual review report to both FREMAA and ADB. The reports will assess whether RIPP outcomes have been achieved or to support FREMAA address gaps in RIPP when these are observed.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Project Background

1. The livelihoods of people in the state of Assam are affected by water-related disasters including floods and riverbank erosion, especially due to the vast flat floodplain of the Brahmaputra River - one of the world's largest rivers. Climate change impacts exacerbate these disasters and are projected to worsen the floods and riverbank erosion while Assam already suffers from recurrent flooding and continual riverbank erosion from the Brahmaputra River. Therefore, Assam continues to face poverty, and its socioeconomic development has been hindered. Riverbank erosion disproportionately affects the poor, who face significant social hardships, such as loss of homesteads, lands, and crops, and are often displaced to fringe lands or urban slums. Disaster risks increase as the population grows, and the high population density of the state hinders people moving away from disaster-prone areas.

2. Erosion damage also extends to public infrastructure, including roads and flood embankments, and the high occurrence of riverbank erosion hinders construction and rehabilitation of flood embankments. About 40% of the state (i.e: about 9.4% of the national flood prone area) is inundated on average annually during the monsoon by the Brahmaputra River and its tributaries, resulting in damage and loss of assets and crops. The livelihoods of people in the state of Assam are affected mostly by water-related disasters including floods and riverbank erosion, especially due to the vast flat floodplain of the Brahmaputra River - one of the world's largest rivers. The threat of recurrent floods and riverbank erosion also discourages investment and leads to lower economic growth in the riparian areas. Effective flood and riverbank erosion risk management is therefore essential for economic growth, livelihood improvement, and poverty reduction in these locations. With a growing population as well as the expansion of settlements within the floodplain, future development will need to be carefully managed to protect the population from water-induced disasters. Furthermore, the growing population demands more reliable protection from riverbank erosion and flooding to safeguard their increasing assets and to sustain economic development.

3. Securing the livelihoods of the population living on floodplain needs to be addressed through public sector interventions aiming at: (i) mitigating the economic losses and social displacement caused by riverbank erosion, (ii) reducing the economic losses resulting from flooding, and (iii) providing a secure environment to facilitate an increase in agricultural and industrial production and to enhance related economic activities.

4. Thus, considering the importance of this issue, the Assam Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program (AIFRERMIP) was started with ADB financing in 2010. Under the AIFRERMIP, the Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA) were established by the state government as the project's executing agency to demonstrate holistic and sustainable FRERM in partnership with ADB. Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA) is implementing the Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project (CRBIFRERMIP) in Assam with ADB loan of \$182 million. The project is proposed to focus on the main stem of the Brahmaputra River and apply a holistic, integrated, and risk-informed approach to strengthen flood and riverbank erosion risk management (FRERM) and its long-term planning in Assam. FREMAA has requested additional financing to include some identified key reaches, along the south and north banks of the Brahmaputra River in Assam, covering 13 more districts stretching from Dhemaji to Dhubri. The outcomes of the additional financing include strides towards

mitigating flood and erosion hazards, which will support the state's overall development. The title of this new proposed investment under CRBIFRERMP will be CRBIFRERMP (additional financing), which includes new components and does not overlap with original project.

5. To safeguard the regions and people living in the vulnerable areas of these 13 districts, it is required to urgently undertake anti-erosion measures prior to the commencement of the next monsoon season. The sections and details of components to be included under additional financing are given below in Table 1. The project will implement a combination of structural and non-structural measures, aiming to support the broader stabilization of the river. The 13 districts identified as high-risk for riverbank erosion include: Biswanath, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Sonitpur, Nagaon, Morigaon, Kamrup, Barpeta, Dhubri and Goalpara.

- (i) **Output 1: Climate resilient flood and riverbank erosion risk mitigation measures implemented and maintained in sub project areas.** This output will apply an integrated river stabilization approach that was developed and refined under the earlier JMREMP, AIFRERMIP, and the ongoing Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program (FRERMIP) in Bangladesh. Specifically, this output will include: (i) construct about 68.03 km of anti-erosion riverbank protection work to stabilize the river and improve its navigability; (ii) place about 10.046 km of pro-siltation measures such as porcupine screens to induce sediment deposition and facilitate stabilization of the river corridor; and (iii) construct new, 32 km of climate resilient flood embankments, including sluice gates, fish passes, and drainage structures in critical areas to maintain river-floodplain interconnectivity to enhance biodiversity. As learned from prior investments, construction contracts will include provisions for 5 years of monitoring, adaptive maintenance, and emergency works from construction completion to improve sustainability. Assam Agroforestry Development Board (AADB) will pilot nature-based solutions such as reed plantations to promote sediment deposition and reduce rain cuts on slopes, as well as wetland rehabilitation.
- (ii) **Output 2: Knowledge-based FRERM planning strengthened.** This output will further develop key agencies' knowledge bases by improving various decision support tools initiated under AIFRERMIP and will strengthen the state's institutional capacity to deliver FRERM, thereby promoting disaster resilience of the state and affected communities. Specifically, Output 2 will: (i) strengthen flood forecasting and early warning systems; (ii) undertake flood mapping to identify people and infrastructure at risk of flooding and enable better land use planning and management on risk-sensitive land; (iii) improve erosion prediction and embankment breach models to prioritize maintenance; (iv) enhance asset management systems and conduct life-cycle reliability analysis to improve maintenance decisions; (v) gather data through topographic and bathymetric surveys, flow and sediment measurements, and asset condition surveys; and (vii) strengthen existing guidelines for flood and riverbank protection design to address climate impacts and resilience, update river stabilization principles, and document the effectiveness of nature-based solutions. These outputs will also contribute to an update of the 2020 Flood and Erosion Management Plan.
- (iii) **Output 3: Vulnerable people's livelihoods and resilience improved.** This output will directly improve the livelihoods and disaster resilience of poor and destitute people living on the flood embankments and *charlands* within the project areas and who are severely affected by floods and bank erosion. It will specifically target women. Activities will: (i) establish eight modern weaving centers, provide sewing machines, and train female headed households and female self-help groups to spin, weave, and market silk; (ii)

increase vegetable production by providing climate resilient seeds, promoting improved agricultural practices, and extending marketing support; (iii) provide vocational training for unemployed youth; (iv) raise awareness on flood and riverbank erosion; and (v) strengthen disaster preparedness and emergency response (also via provision of equipment at district and regional level). Support for subsistence and small farmers will include: (i) assistance creating agriculture and fisheries businesses; (ii) identifying income opportunities associated with the nature-based solutions in Output 1; and (iii) upgrading eight rural markets. Further, the graduation approach will be piloted to complement the various state-led initiatives that strengthen beneficiaries' wellbeing by providing livelihood assistance through agriculture, livestock, fisheries, industries, and vocational training activities. Beneficiaries will be riverine producer collectives registered as farmer producer companies (FPCs).

B. Subproject Components

6. The proposed project components include a set of both structural measures and non-structural measures. The structural measures include anti-erosion works, pro-siltation work and construction of embankment. The non-structural measures include nature-based solutions (e.g., bio engineering techniques such as the planting of reeds) to be applied to embankment slopes to reduce maintenance requirements from the risk of rain cuts and to provide local stakeholders with income-generating activities opportunities. The details of sub project components are presented in the Table 1.

Table 1: Details of District wise Subproject Component

S. N.	District Name	Zone	Infrastructure component	Main Activity	Location details of Components
1	Sivasagar	E	Anti-Erosion	Bank protection works to be carried out by using an apron of Type C specification, with dimensions of 36 meter in width and 0.80meters in thickness along the entire reach.	Total - 9.900 Km i) 7.90 Km from Desangmukh to Dikhowmukh ii) 2.00 Km from Dikhow mukh to Rupahimukh Land width (RoW) of 18 meter required for carrying out the A/E works.
			Pro-siltation	Multi-layered porcupine screens at 2 locations for a length of 1.12 km at the upstream (U/S) of the channels responsible for the erosion are proposed.	Total: 1.120 km i) 0.560 km under Demow LAC ii) 0.560 km at Rupahimukh
2	Dhemaji	E	Anti Erosion		Total: 3.700Km i) 0.500 Km from Tinimileghat to Tarimajgaon. ii) 3.200Km from Panbari to Sonarigaon Land width (RoW) of 18 meter required for carrying out the A/E works.

S. N.	District Name	Zone	Infrastructure component	Main Activity	Location details of Components
			Construction of New Embankment		Total: 32.00Km i) 32.00 Km from Borong to Nalbari Kherkatia. Land width (RoW) of 30 meter required for carrying out the construction of New Embankment works.
			Pro-siltation		Total: 2.00Km i) 1.8km from Pobamukh to Taribasti ii) 0.200km from Downtream of Panbari
3	Golaghat	F	Anti Erosion		Total= 5.850 Km i) 2.350 Km from Bahir Rowmora to Koroiguri ii) 1.90 Km from Kathonibari to Riri Telia Bari. iii)0.850 km from Naramari Dalkhowa to Bhakat Chapori. iv)0.750 km from Dhansiri Temera to Kathonibari. Land width (RoW) of 20 meter required for carrying out the A/E works.
			Pro-siltation		Total: 1.80 km i) 1.80 km at Alami Chapori to Rohita Chapori.
4	Jorhat	F	Anti Erosion		Total= 7.930 Km i) 1.00 Km at Vitor Kokila ii) 4.50 Km from Gohaingaon to 2 no spur iii) 1.430 km at 8 no.Spur iv) 1.00 km at Dhudang. Land width (RoW) of 25 meter required for carrying out the A/E works.
5	Biswanath	F	Anti Erosion and Pro-siltation		Total: 8.550 km i) 3.200 Km at A/E & PSC works at Kharoiati ii)2.850 Km at A/E & PSC works at Rownamukh iii)2.500 Km at A/E & PSC works at Sanyashi Gaon. 30 meter from existing bank line.
6	North Lakhimpur	F	Anti Erosion		Total= 3.00 Km i) 3.00 Km at Bonpuroi Jamuguri area from Ch: -23231 to 26231 of B/dyke from Jamuguri to Kharoi outfall.

S. N.	District Name	Zone	Infrastructure component	Main Activity	Location details of Components
					Land width (RoW) of 17meter required for carrying out the A/E works.
			Pro-siltation		Total= 1.326 Km i) 0.270 Km PSC Porcupine screen at the mouth of off-shoot channel that develop during flood time and at bank at Bihpuria. ii)0.480 K PSC Porcupine screen at the mouth of off-shoot channel that develop during flood time at Bihpuria. iii) 0.576 Km at D/S of anti-erosion works at Bihpuria
7	Barpeta	D	Anti Erosion		Total: 7.200 km i) 1.200 Km at Chenimari,Chenga ii)1.000 Km at Kalatali, Chenga iii)2.000 Km at Dakreswar Dewalaya to Belortari, Chenga. iv) 3.000 Km at Habi Dongra. Land width (RoW) of 25 meter required for carrying out the A/E works.
			Pro-siltation		Total: 1.300 km i) 0.400 Km at Bahari U/S,Chenga ii)0.900 Km at Rahampur, Chenga
8	Morigaon	B	Anti Erosion		Total: 12.200 km i) 10.711 Km at Mikirgaon-Kathani-Tengaguri area, Laharighat ii)0.300 Km at U/S of Panchali spur, Laharighat iii)8.139 Km at D/S of Panchali spur to Baralimari, Laharighat. iv) 3.000 Km at Gagalmari-Garubandha area, Jagiroad. Land width (RoW) of 20 meter required for carrying out the A/E works.
9	Nagaon	B	Anti Erosion		Total: 2.717 km i) 2.717Km at Silghat, Kaliabor Land width (RoW) of 30 meter required for carrying out the A/E works.
10	Sonitpur	B	Pro-siltation		Total: 0.300 km i) 0.300Km at Borachuburi Land width (RoW) of 25 meter required.
			Geo-tube		Total: 0.800 km

S. N.	District Name	Zone	Infrastructure component	Main Activity	Location details of Components
					i) 0.800Km at Borachuburi Land width (RoW) of 25 meter required.
11	Kamrup	C			Constriction of Pump House at Kalbhog Sluice gate along with 4 nos. of Pump sets
12	Goalpara	D	Anti Erosion		Total: 2.00 km i) 02.00Km from Chunari to Jaleswar Land width (RoW) of 30 meter required for carrying out A/E works.
13	Dhubri	D	Anti Erosion		Total: 4.700 km i) 04.00Km from Porarvita to Bashmura (Sonai Channel), Birsing Jarua ii) 0.700Km from Fakirganj to Pampara-ChatlaRIPPar.
			Pro-siltation		Total: 2.500 km i) 02.000km from at Barkalia N.C to SundaRIPPara Pt-I ii) 0.500Km at Pampara-ChatlaRIPPa to Goladegi.

Source: Detailed Project Report, WRD.

C. Subproject Locations Depicted on Maps

7. Under CRBIFRERMP additional financing works 13 subproject districts includes (i) Biswanath, (ii) North Lakhimpur, (iii) Dhemaji (iv) Sivasagar, v) Jorhat, vi) Golaghat, vii) Sonitpur, viii) Nagaon, ix) Morigaon, x) Kamrup, xi) Barpeta, xii) Dhubri, xiii) Goalpara as shown in and the location maps of subproject areas are presented under

8. Figure 2.

9. Figure 1 and the location maps of subproject areas are presented under

10. Figure 2.

Figure 1: General Location Map of the sub project sites

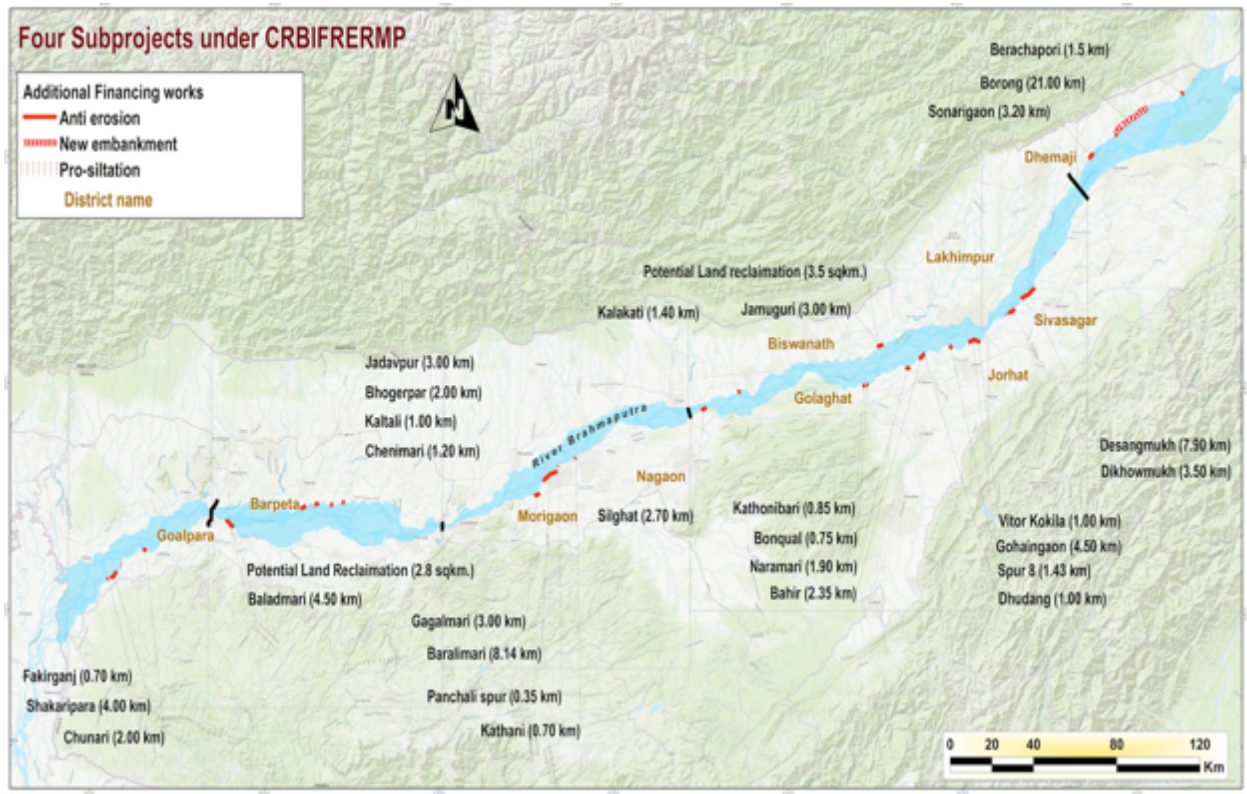


Figure 2: Location Map of the Subproject Districts

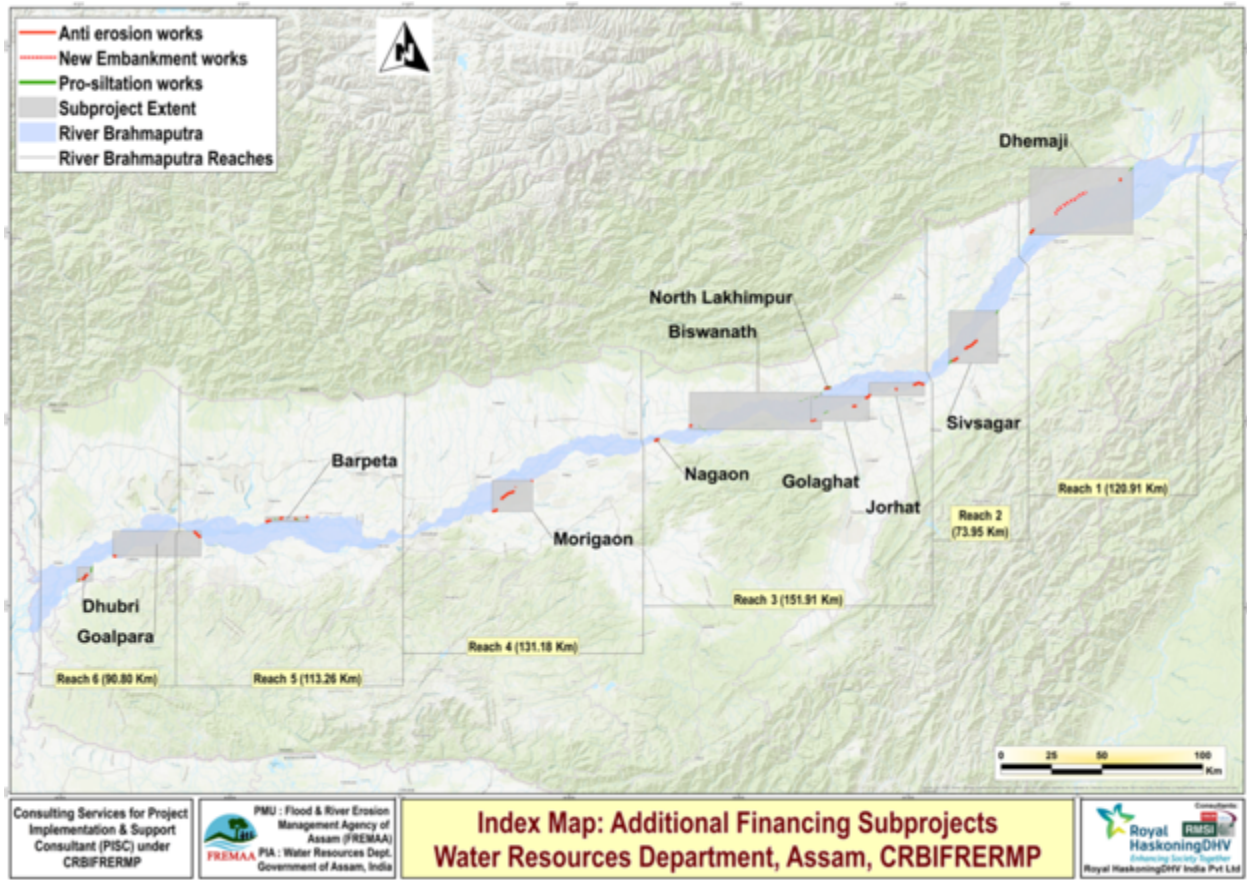


Figure -2.1: Sub project site- Biswanath

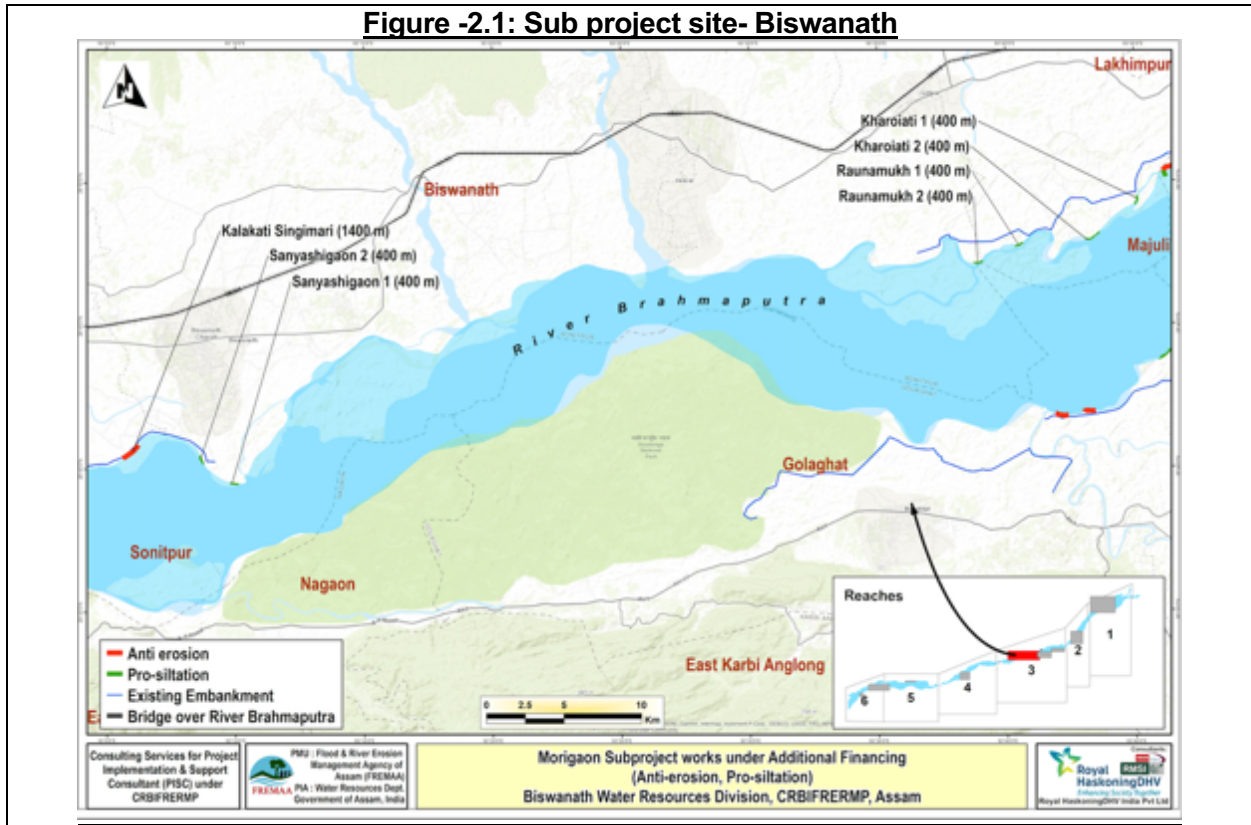


Figure 2-2: Sub project site- Lakhimpur

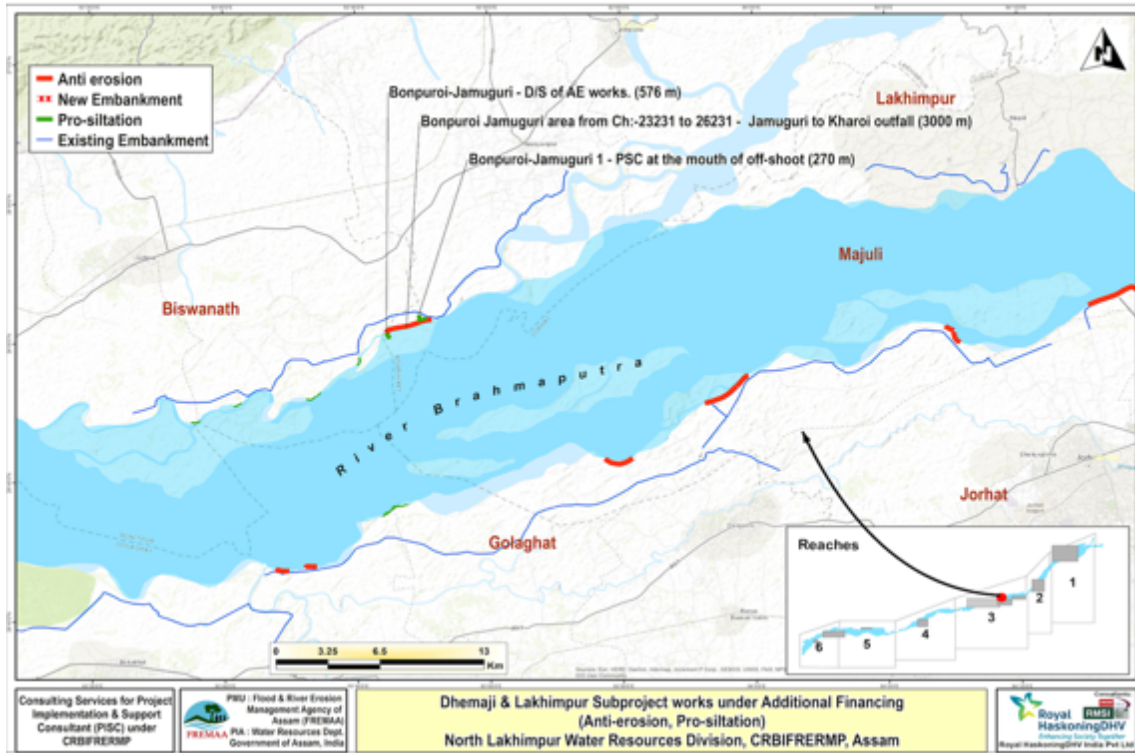


Figure 2-3: Sub project site- Dhemaji

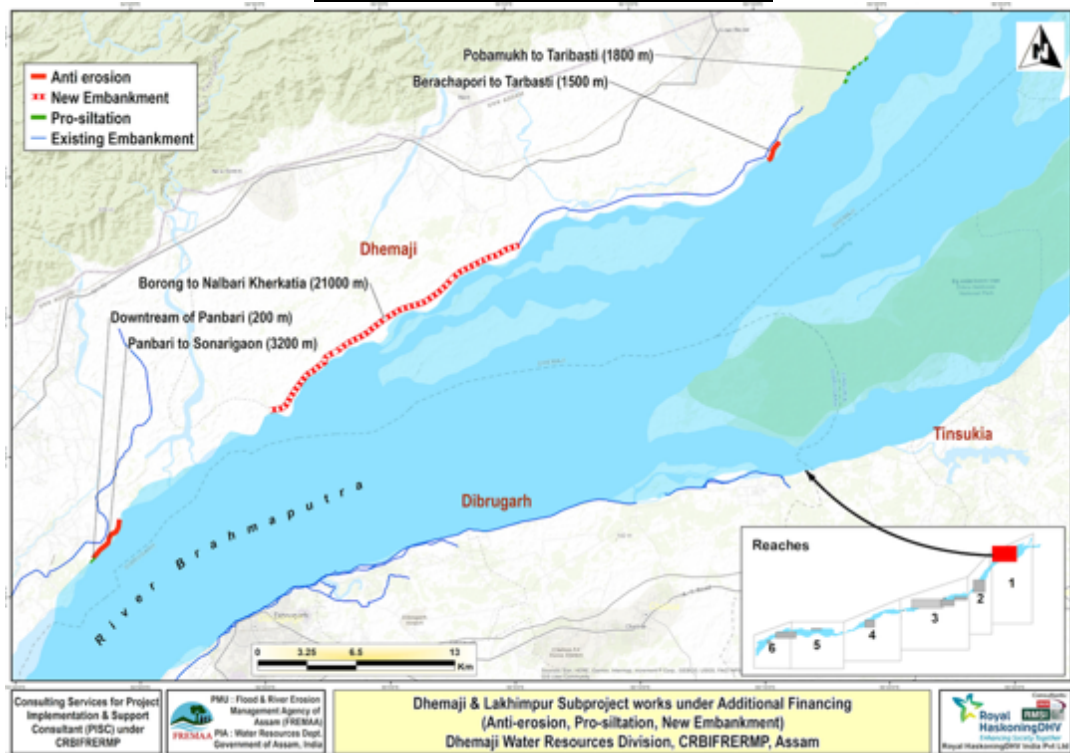


Figure 2-4: Sub project site- Sivasagar

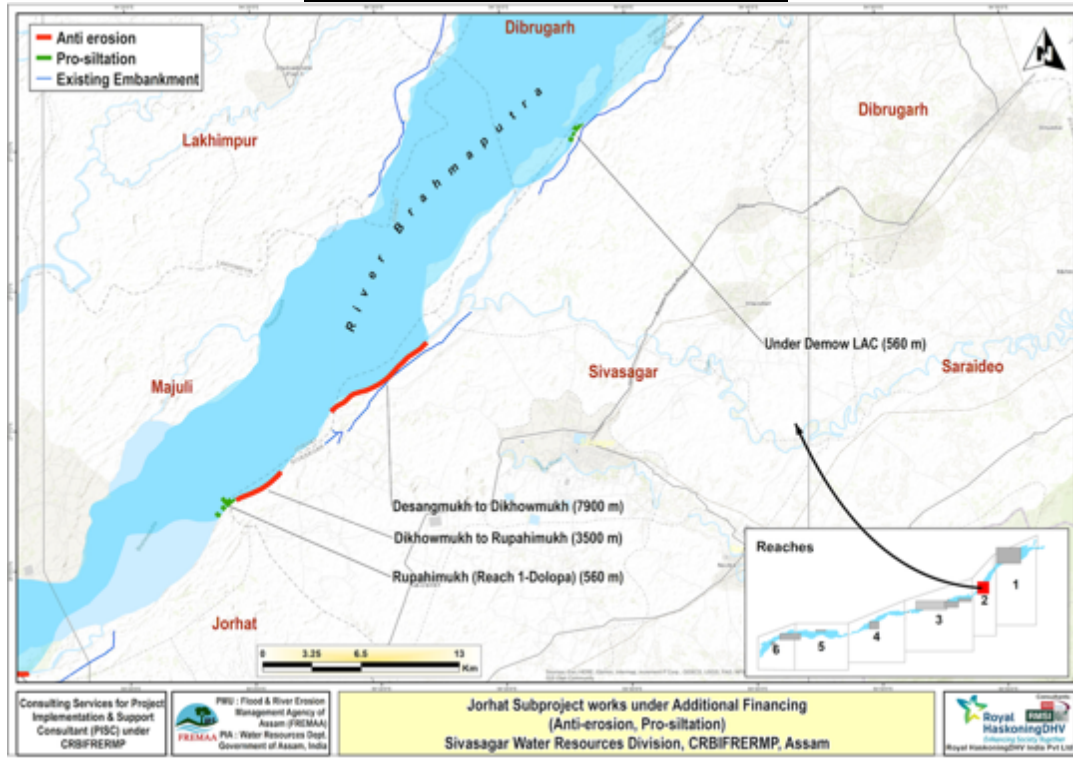


Figure 2-5: Sub project site- Jorhat

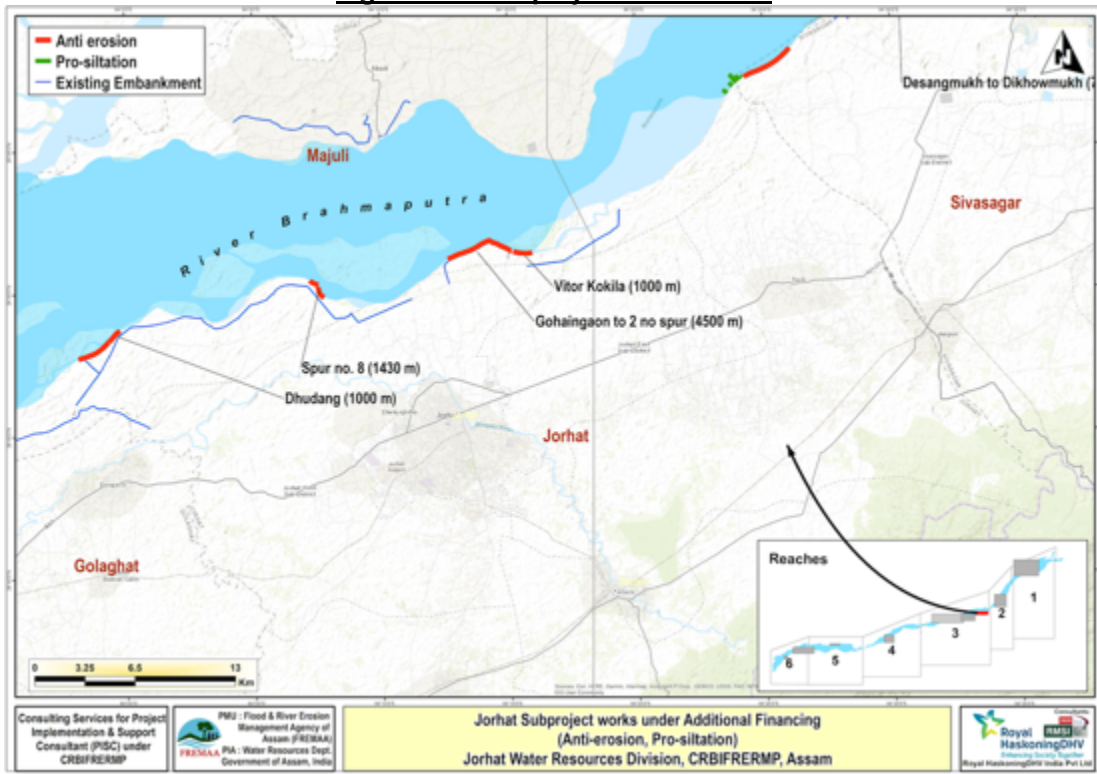


Figure 2-6: Sub project site- Golaghat

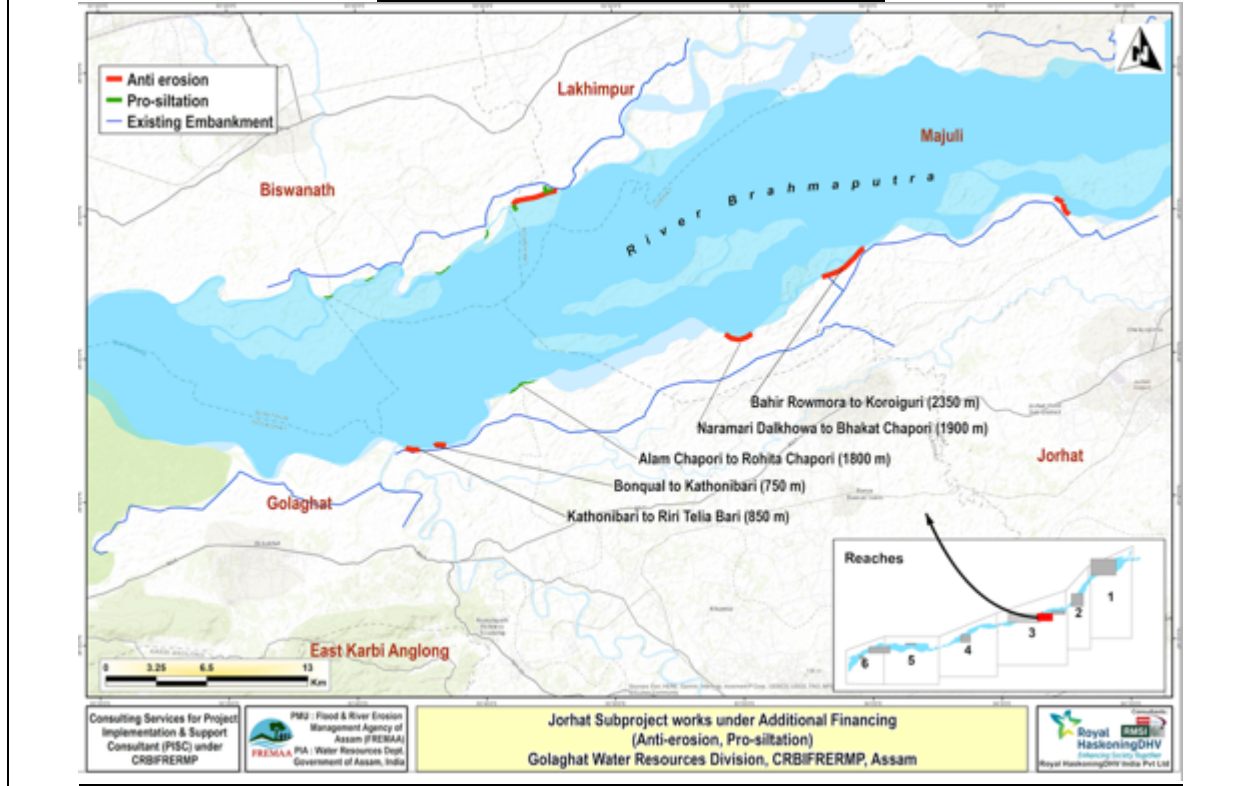


Figure 2-7: Sub project site- Nagaon

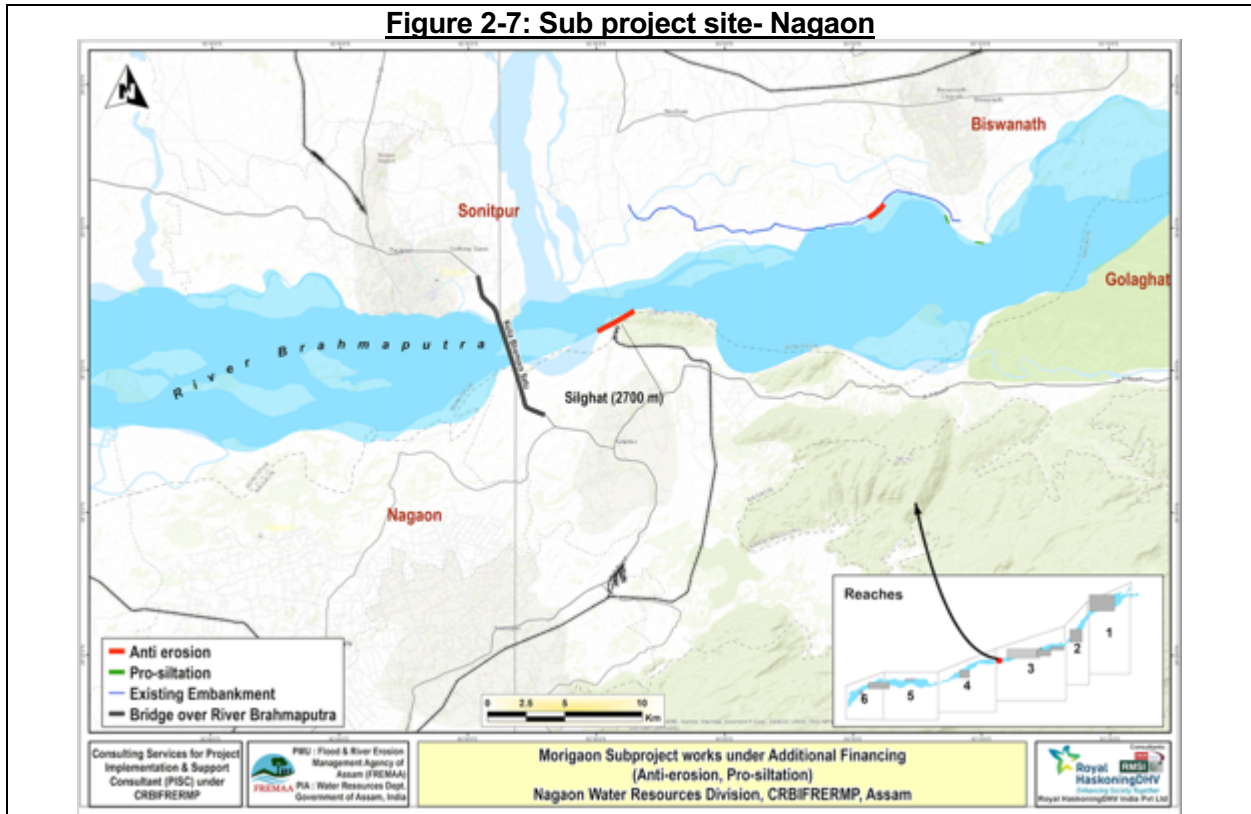


Figure 2-8: Sub project site- Morigaon

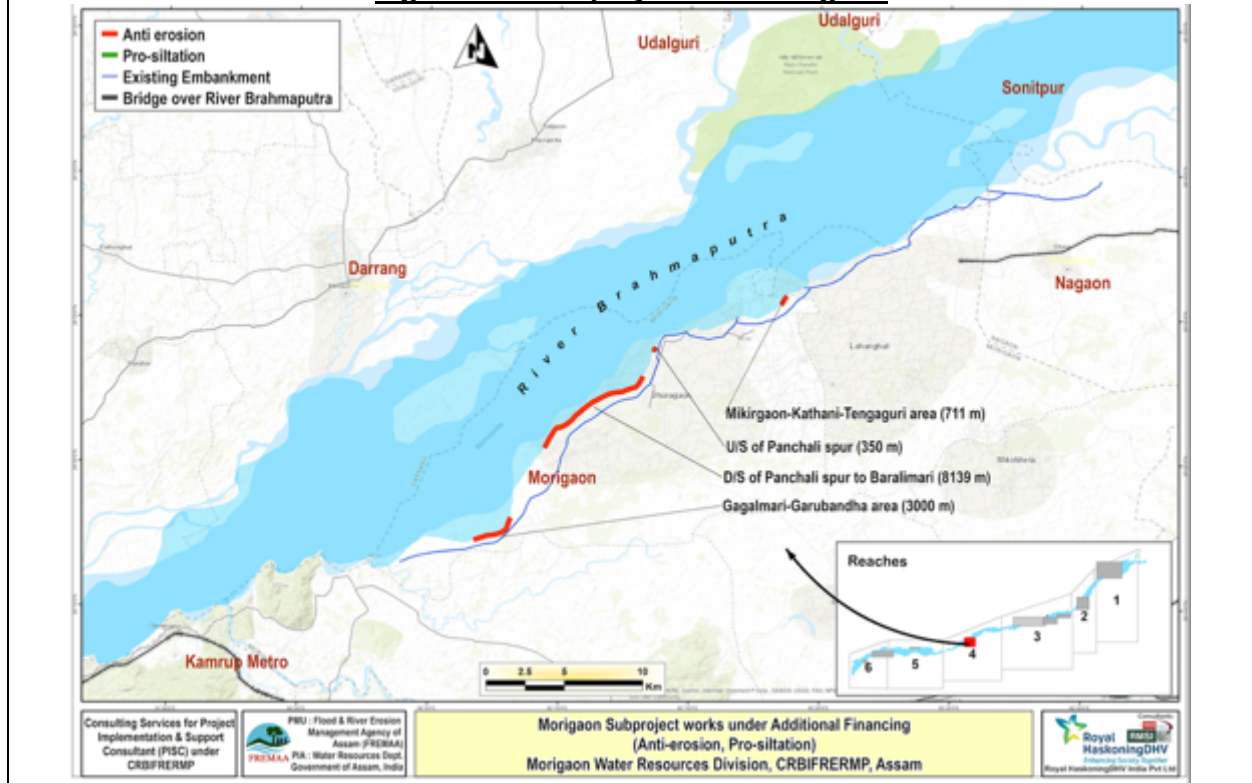


Figure 2-9: Sub project site- Barpeta

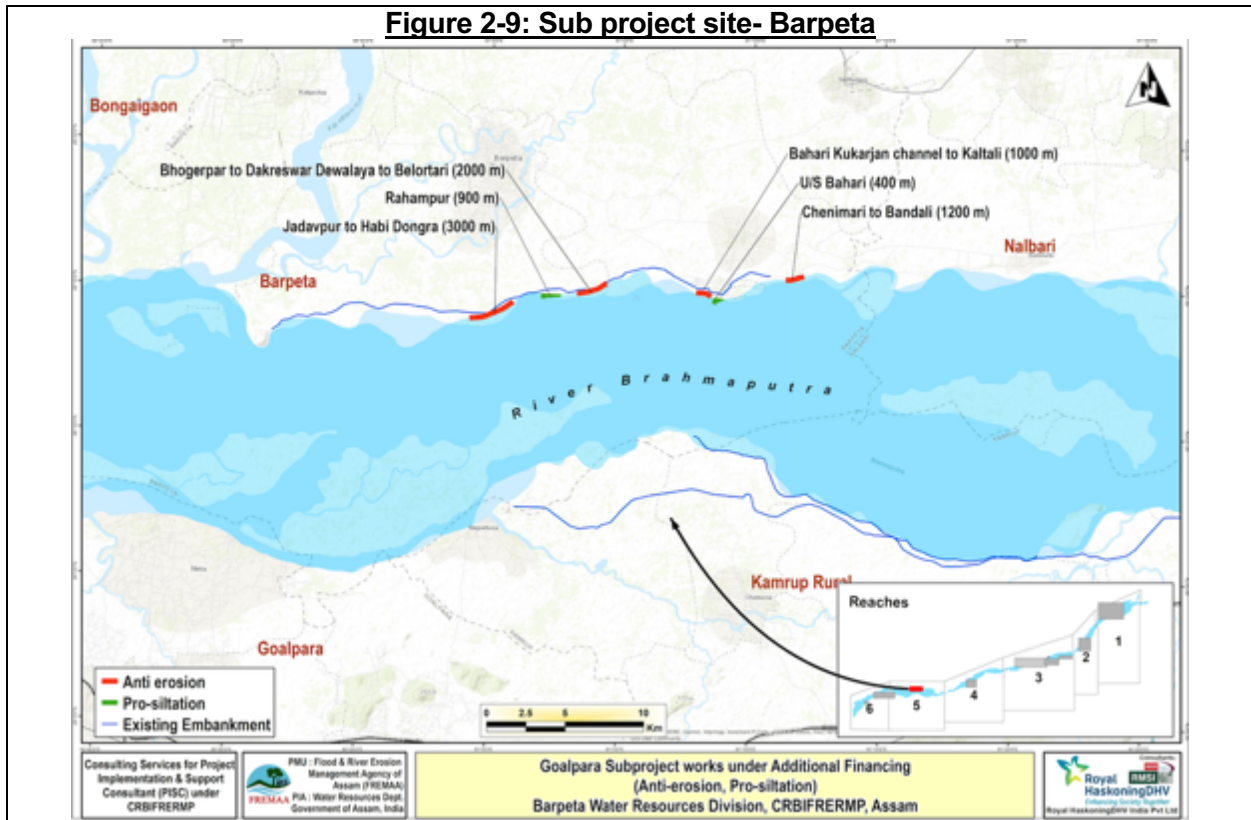


Figure 2-10: Sub project site- Dhubri

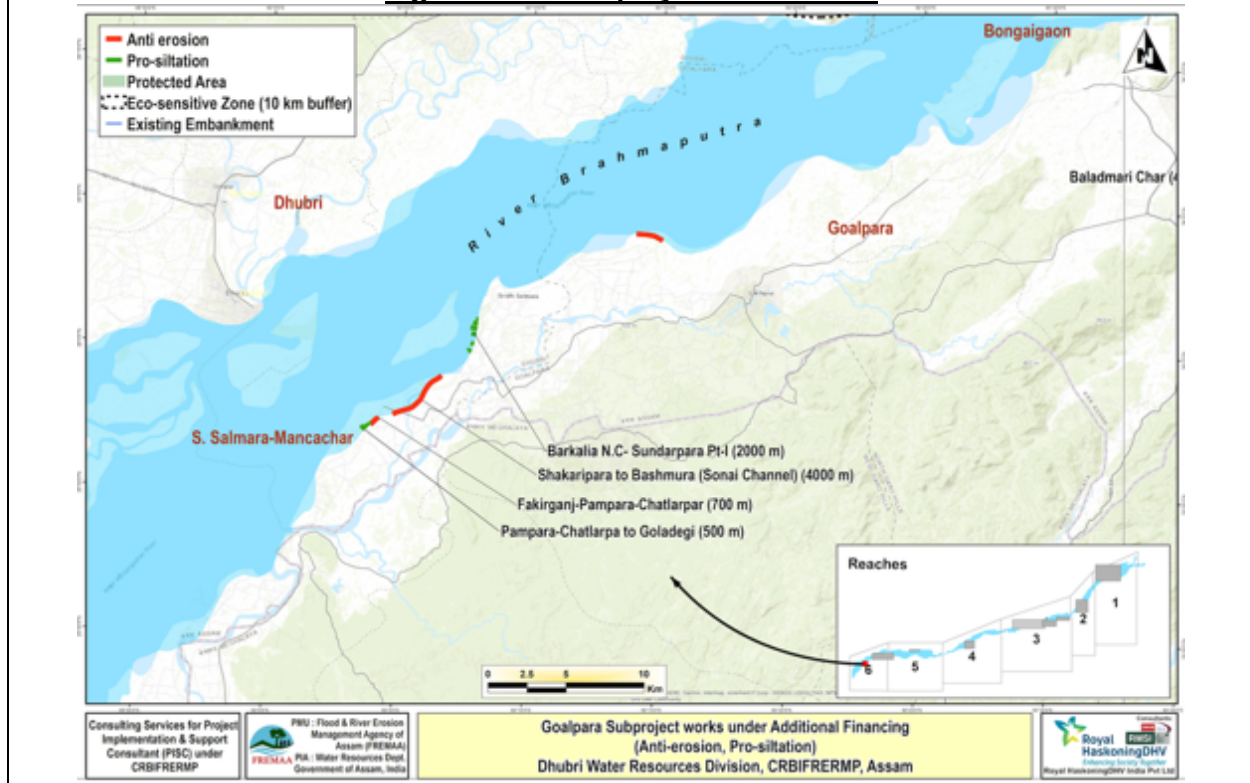
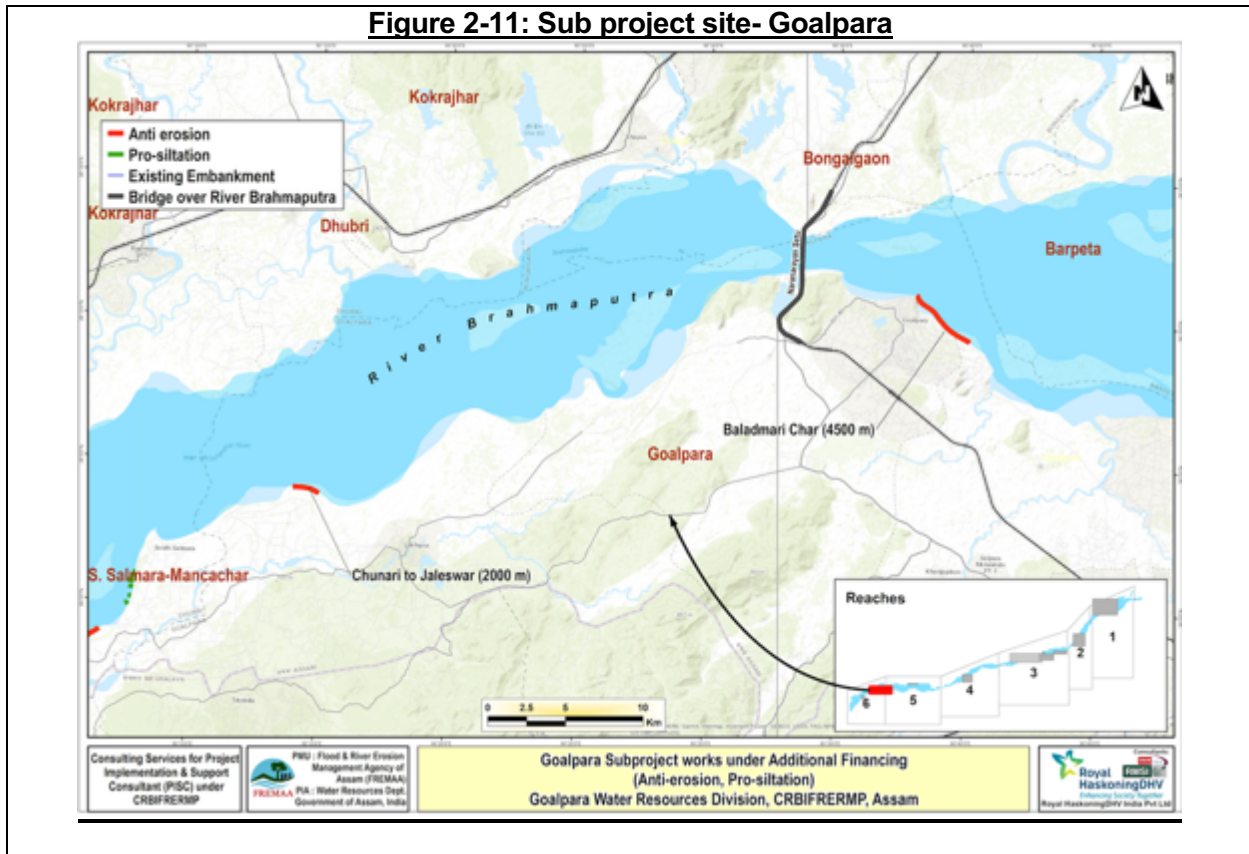


Figure 2-11: Sub project site- Goalpara



D. Scope and Objective of the Resettlement and Indigenous Peoples Plan (RIPP)

11. The Project is categorized as category ‘A’ for involuntary resettlement (IR) and category ‘B’ for Indigenous Peoples (IP) safeguards requirement as per the Safeguard Policy Statement, 2009 (ADB SPS-2009). This draft combined Resettlement and Indigenous People Plan (RIPP) has been prepared to address the potential involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples impacts due to project components covering 13 districts. The aim of this RIPP is to mitigate all such unavoidable negative impacts caused due to the project, and to effectively resettle the displaced persons and restore their livelihoods. This draft RIPP has been prepared based on project impact assessment, census survey findings and site-specific consultations with various other stakeholders. The plan is in line with applicable Government of India (GoI), State Government of Assam ADB SPS-2009 to protect the rights of the displaced persons and communities. The aims and objective of this RIPP are as under:

- (i) To determine the type and extent of loss of land acquisition and non-land assets, loss of livelihood, loss of common property resources and social infrastructure and address them through appropriate mitigation measures in the RIPP;
- (ii) To present the socio-economic profile of the population in the project areas, identified social impact including impacts on Indigenous People, vulnerable groups like poor, women and other disadvantaged sections of society;
- (iii) To describe the process undertaken to engage stakeholders during project design, conduct meaningful consultation with affected people and facilitate stakeholder participation during project implementation. Disclosure activities carried out during

- planning, issues and concerns raised by the DPs and other stakeholders, and a matrix on how feedback was used and incorporated in the RIPP and overall project design.
- (iv) To describe the likely economic impact and economic risks as a result of the proposed project for the 13 districts under additional financing of CRBIFRERMP.
 - (v) Existing legal and administrative framework and formulation of resettlement policy for the project and define the involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples;
 - (vi) To ensure that schedule tribe receive culturally appropriate benefits and do not suffer adverse impacts as a result of the proposed project. Ensure the active participation of the tribal community throughout the project circle.
 - (vii) To formulate project entitlement matrix, relocation strategy and restoration of businesses/income;
 - (viii) To prepare and present a budget for the RIPP implementation. Specify sources of funding, approval process, and timely disbursement of funds.
 - (ix) Institutional framework for the implementation of the plan, including grievance redress mechanism and monitoring & reporting.
 - (x) Prepare a schedule for resettlement activities in conjunction with the agreed implementation schedule for the project.
 - (xi) To formulate RIPP monitoring indicators and prepare an RIPP monitoring plan.

12. This draft RIPP is prepared according to the feasibility study carried out by WRD and FREMAA with the support from Project Implementation Support Consultant and based on Social Impact assessment survey and site-specific consultations. The draft RIPP will be updated based on any changes in scope of work as required before its implementation. Further, keeping in view the changing nature of the river where erosion is a continuous phenomenon, this draft RIPP will be updated based on the verified database of actual APs after next onslaught of monsoon, including any changes in project alignment or impacts due to fresh erosion. The civil work in the related section/area will only be commenced after validation of RIPP implementation in the said section/area through RIPP implementation compliance report, which will be submitted to and reviewed by ADB.

E. Methodology Adopted for Preparation of RIPP

13. For preparation of this draft RIPP, a detailed social impact assessment of the project affected subproject areas are carried out followed by land acquisition planning, Zirat¹ survey, project census survey of affected assets and households and public consultation meetings/FGDs. The objective of the project census is to identify the persons who would be displaced by the project and to make an inventory of their assets that would be lost to the project.

14. A structured census questionnaire has been developed and used to collect detailed information on affected households/ properties for a full understanding of impacts in order to develop mitigation measures and resettlement plan implementation for the DPs. The survey team was selected locally including some female familiar with local languages and the team was trained by the resettlement specialist and the survey was closely monitored on a regular basis. The census survey includes the following:

- inventory of the 100% land and non-land assets;
- categorization and measurements of potential loss;

¹ Zirat survey is the joint measurement survey conducted by revenue department in in coordination with other departments like agriculture, horticulture, fishery, PWD building, forest etc.

- physical measurements of the affected assets/structures;
- identification of trees and crops;
- collection of information on social, economic and demographic profile;
- identification of non-titleholders; and
- assessment of potential economic and livelihood impact.

15. To ensure peoples' participation in the planning phase and aiming at promotion of public understanding and fruitful solutions of developmental problems such as local needs of road users and problem and prospects of resettlement, various sections of displaced persons (DPs) and other stakeholders were meaningfully consulted through focus group discussions, individual interviews including vulnerable sections of DPs and women specific focused group discussion (FGD).

II. SCOPE OF LAND ACQUISITION AND RESETTLEMENT

A. Land Acquisition and Resettlement Issues under the Subproject

16. The structural measures such as riverbank protection and flood embankment components of the sub project will involve land acquisition resulting in physical or economic displacement of riverine communities. Based on the social impact assessment of the proposed interventions, following potential social risks are anticipated at pre-construction stage and construction stage.

(i) Pre-construction stage

- Loss of land (agricultural/ homestead/ commercial/ Community land etc.) of title holders
- Impact on assets of non-titleholders (encroachers, squatters).
- Loss of structures (residential/ commercial/ residential cum commercial, cattle sheds) of titleholders and non-titleholders
- Disproportionate impacts on vulnerable groups including women, indigenous people, income below the poverty line families and People with Disabilities (PwD)
- Impacts on community/ religious land and structures and other common/ community properties;
- Temporary or permanent disruption of livelihoods, including the loss of tenancy (rental structures) such as petty shop owners, squatters and encroachers;
- Loss of trees and crops

(ii) Construction stage

- Temporary disruption/access to settlement and utilities
- Temporary loss of livelihoods – fishing and boating
- Damage to adjacent land parcels and structures
- Temporary requirement of land for labour camps and storage of equipment

B. Land Acquisition and Resettlement Impacts of the Sub project

17. A project socio-economic survey and 100% census survey of the affected persons were carried out to identify the quantum and type of impact on the people due to project activities and also in order to make an inventory of their assets that would be lost due to the project intervention, which would be the basis of calculation for compensation. The census survey of proposed subproject was carried out between 5th July 2025 and 5th August 2025. The census survey is based on current available design, and this will be updated as required if there is any change in scope or due to fresh erosion based on the updated design.

18. The project area is spread over 13 heavy erosion prone districts of Assam namely- Dhubri, Goalpara, Barpeta, Morigaon, Kamrup, Nagaon, Sonitpur, Biswanath, North Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Sivasagar, Jorhat and Golaghat. Private land acquisition is required in 12 districts.

19. The land acquisition and resettlement impacts, as identified through the project design and land acquisition survey, are summarized in **Table 2**. The total land requirement across all 13 subprojects amounts to 601.09 acres. Out of the total mentioned required land area, 431.29 acres,

representing 71.75%, are recorded as Government land. Additionally, 141.23 acres, i.e., 23.50%, are classified as private revenue land, while 28.57 acres, which accounts for 4.75%, are recorded as Eksonia (periodic lease) land, as per revenue records. District wise details of the land requirement are appended as **Appendix 2** (Volume-II).

Table 2: Impact on Various Categories of Land

Type of Land	Private Revenue			Eksonia (Periodic lease)			Government			Total		
	No	Area (Acre)	AH	No	Area (Acre)	AH	No	Area (Acre)	AH	No	Area (Acre)	AH
Agricultural	709	117.46	590	87	13.93	88	0	0	0	796	131.39	678
Residential	83	11.53	78	23	1.42	14	0	0	0	106	12.95	92
Unused/Barren	107	12.24	59	65	13.22	56	918	431.29	93	1090	456.75	208
Total	899	141.23	727	175	28.57	158	918	431.29	93	1992	601.09	978

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

20. Based on the above land acquisition requirement, the project impact assessment was carried out through a project census survey which includes loss of land, loss of non-land assets and loss of livelihoods. Other than this, affected non-land assets known as common properties resources (CPR) with community ownership are also assessed during the census survey.

21. It was found that a total of 984 households is envisaged to be affected under proposed CRBIFRERP (Additional financing). Out of the identified 984 households, 80 HHs (8.13 %) will be losing land with structure, 799 HHs (81.20%) are envisaged to be losing only land, and 93 squatters (9.45%) will be losing only structures, six eksonia land holders (0.61%) and six employees (0.61%) losing their livelihood. The 93 squatters are located on government land. The details of the same are provided in Table 3. It is to be noted that out of the 13 identified project districts, no impact on any assets has been identified in the district of Kamrup. District wise details of the loss assets and number of affected HHs are appended as **Appendix 3** (Volume-II).

Table 3: Loss of Assets as per Affected Households

Sl. No	Type of Loss	No. of Households	%
1	Land with Structure (TH)	80	8.13
2	Only Structure (Squatters)	93	9.45
3	Land with Structure (Eksonia)	6	0.61
4	Only Land	799	81.20
5	Employment	6	0.61
Total		984	100.00

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

22. The table below is a representation of assessment of severity of impacts on lands. The intensity or significance of land impacts is presented in **Table 4**, which shows that 210 households are losing up to 10% of their land. 675 households are severely affected, of which 313 households were found to have an impact, which is more than 10% of their land up to 25%. Similarly, 205 households were also identified to have an impact above 25% up to 50%. Among others, 93 households will be losing more than 50% of their land up to 75% and 64 households will be losing more than 75% of land. This information is based on a census survey and subject to change based on verification survey to be conducted during the land acquisition. Out of 885 HHs losing

land 115 are losing their unproductive (barren/unused) land. As per given policy the DPs losing more than 10% of their productive assets are considered severely affected and they will be entitled for livelihood restoration under the project. District wise details for the assessed severity of impact can be seen in **Appendix 4** (Volume-II).

Table 4: Severity of Impact on Private Land

SI. No	Type of Loss	No. of Households	%
1	Up to 10%	210	23.73
2	Above 10% and Below 25%	313	35.37
3	Above 25% and Below 50%	205	23.16
4	Above 50% and Below 75%	93	10.51
5	Above 75%	64	7.23
Total		885	100

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

23. The analysis of census results shows that a total of only 93 NTH households losing residential structures would be physically displaced. Similarly, 799 TH households will have impact only on land and 80 TH households will have impact on land and structure. In total 179 HHs will have impact on structures out of which 93 are NTHs, 80 THs and 6 are Eksonia (Recognized as Titleholder). The list of DPs is attached as **Appendix 46** (Volume-II).

C. Loss of Private Structure

24. As per the census survey, a total of 368 structures (including residential, commercial and others) owned by 179 households has been identified to be affected due to the proposed project activities. Of these, 152 structures are owned by 80 titleholder households, 14 structures by 6 Eksonia (periodic titleholder) households, 202 structures by 93 non-titleholders (squatters) households. The detailed breakdown of affected structures is presented in

25. Table 5. However, district specific details of the same are appended as Annexure 5 (Volume-II).

Table 5: Loss of Impact on Private Structures

SI. No.	Ownership Status	No. of Structures	No. of Households
1.	Legal Titleholder	152	80
2.	Eksonia	14	6
3.	Squatter	202	93
Total		368	179

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

26. The assessment of impacts on private residential structures indicates that a total of 368 structures including residential, commercial and other private, belonging to 179 households, are expected to be affected by more than 50%. Based on the joint assessment done by the public works department (PwD- building) and Revenue department the structures with over 50% damage are identified as uninhabitable, hence considered 100% impacted and will require relocation. Out of the thirteen project districts, impact on the residential structures has been identified in seven districts only. During assessment of impacts on residential structures, the districts namely, Dhubri, Golaghat, Kamrup, Sonitpur, Lakhimpur and Sivasagar were found to

have no impacts on residential structures due to project activities. The district specific magnitude of impact on Residential Structures is represented as **Appendix 6** (Volume-II).

27. As outlined in the Entitlement Matrix, affected structures will be compensated for at full replacement cost. Partial compensation will be provided where the remaining portion of the structure is deemed viable for continued use. The viability of each structure will be determined during the verification and valuation process by an engineer from the Building Department, in consultation with the affected households.

D. Type of Private Structure

28. As per the census survey, a total of 179 households will be impacted, resulting in the loss of 368 private structures. Among these, 155 households will lose 312 residential structures, two households will lose 7 commercial structures, one household will lose one residential-cum-commercial structures, 21 households will lose 48 other private structures. The detailed of different types of affected structures and displaced households is presented in Table 6. District specific details are appended as **Appendix 7** (Volume-II) for reference.

Table 6: Type of Private Structures Affected under the Project

Sl. No	Type of Loss	No of Structure	%	Number of Households	%
1	Residential Structure	312	84.24	155	86.60
2	Commercial Structure	7	1.90	2	1.12
3	Residential cum commercial structure	1	0.27	1	0.55
4	Cattle Shed	48	13.59	21	11.73
Total		368	100.00	179	100.00

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

E. Type of construction of Affected structures

29. Analysis of the census data reveals that a total of 368 structures is envisaged to be affected by the project. The majority of 263 structures are classified as temporary in nature. This prevalence is largely due to the geographical vulnerability of the area, which is prone to flooding and erosion. As a result, riverine communities predominantly construct and reside in temporary dwellings made from materials such as bamboo, wood, and tin sheets. In addition, to this, the impact assessment survey also recorded 102 semi-permanent structures and 3 permanent structures. A detailed type of construction of the affected structures is provided in **Table 7**. The type of construction of the affected structures in different districts is reflected as **Appendix 8** (Volume-II).

Table 7 : Type of Construction of Affected Structure

Sl. No	Type of Loss	No. of Households	%
1	Temporary	263	71.47
2	Semi- Permanent	102	27.72
3	Permanent	3	0.82
Total		368	100

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

F. Usage Type of Affected Private Structure

30. While considering the use of private structures, it has been noted that a total of 368 structures (including residential and other types of structures) is envisaged to be affected owned by 179 households, where 155 HHs will be losing 312 numbers of houses and other residential structures. Additionally, one household will be affected by a shop structure. Furthermore, one household will be impacted by 6 restaurant and commercial structures, and 21 households will be affected of 48 cattle sheds and one household losing a residential cum commercial structures. The detailed breakdown of use of private structures affected by the project is presented in **Table 8** District wise details for the use of private structures affected by the project is appended as **Appendix 9** (Volume-II).

Table 8: Usage Type of Affected Private Structure affected

Sl. No	Type of Loss	No. of Structures	No. of Households	%
1	House and other Residential	312	155	77.09
3	Shops	1	1	0.56
4	Restaurant and other Commercial ²	6	1	0.56
5	Cattle shed	48	21	13.97
6	Residential cum Commercial	1	1	1.12
Total		368	179	100.00

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

G. Loss of Livelihood in the project

31. Loss of livelihood is considered as one of the important indicators while conducting impact assessment and the survey data revealed that out of total 984 affected households, 693 households will be losing their livelihood due to loss of productive assets. Furthermore, it can be stated that out of the 693 households whose livelihoods will be getting impacted, 684 households are envisaged to lose their agricultural land, 1 HH will be losing 1 commercial structure, 1 HH found to be losing residential cum commercial structure and there are also 6 employees identified to lose their livelihood due to loss of employment. These riverine community's dependency on the river is very minimum as they are not into commercial fishing and most of them are dependent on agriculture and other allied activities including daily wages for their livelihoods. The details of impact on livelihoods in the project are given in the

² Note: Other residential structures include kitchen, store, toilets etc. Other commercial structures include restaurants and its subsidiary structure like kitchen, toilets and store etc. Other structures include shed, boundary wall and seating place etc.

32. **Table 9.** District specific details for loss of livelihood are reflected as **Appendix 10** (Volume II).

Table 9: Details of HHs having Loss of Livelihood

S. N.	Particulars	Total	%
1	Households losing agricultural land	684	97.85
2	Households losing commercial structure	2	1.00
3	Households losing residential cum commercial structure	1	0.29
4	Employees losing livelihoods	6	0.86
Total		693	100

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

H. Loss of Business

33. Three households losing businesses include one shop owner, one restaurant and one owner of boat making workshop. All these three households belong to the titleholders category. The details of business loss are summarized in **Table 10**. The compensation for business losses for these titleholders is already evaluated during the joint survey and the same is included under 25% additional compensation to be paid as per direct purchase policy of the state. Additionally, these three households will be eligible for livelihood training and included under the R&R budget.

Table 10: Details of HHs Losing Business

S. N.	Particulars	No. of structure	No. of household
1.	Loss of Grocery shop	1	1
2.	Loss of Restaurant and subsidiary structure	6	1
3.	Loss of boat making workshop	1	1
Total		8	3

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

I. Loss of Trees

34. During the socio-economic cum census survey, tree belonging to private owners were also assessed which are envisaged to be affected, these includes a total of 3649 trees, out of which 2337 are fruit bearing and 1312 are non-fruit bearing trees. The details of household losing trees and types of trees are given in Table 11 and Table 12. The estimate of loss and compensation of private tree will be done by the District Agricultural Officer from Agriculture department in consultation with Forest Department officials during implementation. Out of the thirteen project districts, impact on trees owned by private parties is envisaged in 8 districts only and in rest of the five districts there is going to be no loss of any trees namely, Dhubri, Sonitpur, Lakhimpur, Sivasagar and Kamrup. District specific details can be referred to **Appendix 11** and **12** (Volume II). The Project doesn't impact any crops.

Table 11 : Details of Fruit Bearing Trees Owned by Affected due to Project

Sl. No.	Type of Fruit Bearing Trees	Total
1	Guava	371
2	Jackfruit	239
3	Jujube	256
4	Mango	197
5	Betelnut	352

Sl. No.	Type of Fruit Bearing Trees	Total
7	Coconut	155
8	Banana	518
9	Indian Blackberry	47
11	Bogori	202
	Total	2337

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

Table 12: Details of Timber Trees Affected due to Project

Sl. No.	Type of Timber Trees	Total
1	Agarwood	127
2	Azar	111
3	Simalu	245
4	Bhoj	50
5	Gamari	343
7	Kadam	307
8	Other (Firewood)	129
	G Total	1312

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

35. The analysis of census results shows that a total of 984 households would be physically and economically displaced due to loss of land, residential and commercial structure including six employees who are going to be affected under the project. A summary on category-wise displacement of households is given in **Table 13**. The district specific details of category wise displaced HHs are reflected as **Appendix 13** (Volume II).

Table 13: Summary of Category wise Displacement of Households

S. N.	Category of Displaced Households	Category of DH		Total
		TH	NTH	
1	Physically Displaced Households	62	93	155
	(a) Owners of Residential Land and Structure	62	0	62
	(b) Owners of Primary Residential Structure	0	93	93
2	Economically Displaced Households	828	0	828
	(a) Owners of Agricultural Land	684	0	684
	(b) Owners of Commercial Structure	2	0	2
	(c) Owners of Cattle shed	21	0	21
	(d) Other Affected Household Not Requiring Physical Displacement (Vacant/unused land)	115	0	115
	(e) Employees losing Livelihood	6	0	6
3	Physically and Economically Displaced (Residential + Commercial)	1	0	1
	Total	891	93	984

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

J. Loss of Common Property Resources

36. Impact on common property resources (CPR) has been identified in only three districts out of the thirteen project districts, where a total of 12 CPRs are likely to be affected by the proposed project activities. Of these, 6 are in Morigaon District, comprising of 1 temple and 5 mosques, 3 are in Barpeta District, comprising of 1 one Mosque, 1 government office and 1 other community facility Centre. The remaining three structures are in Jorhat District, including one Namghar, one government office, and one other community facility Centre. Out of the 13 project districts, the impact on common property resources has been identified in 3 districts, Barpeta, Morigaon and Jorhat.

37. District-wise details of the affected community properties are provided in **Table 14**. Any CPR affected by the project will be compensated at replacement cost to the respective community or entity (such as a registered trust, society, or village committee). The details of the Common property resources along with photographs are provided in **Appendix 28** (Volume II).

Table 14: Loss of Common Property Resources

Sl. No.	Type of CPR Structure	No of Structures			Total
		Barpeta	Morigaon	Jorhat	
1	Temple	-	1	-	1
2	Namghar	-	-	1	1
3	Mosque	1	5	-	6
4	Govt Office	1	-	1	2
5	Other Community Structures (Shed gates etc.)	1	-	1	2
Total		3	6	3	12

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

K. Summary Impacts

38. The summary of resettlement impacts under the Project including types of displacement, significant impacts and livelihood loss etc. presented in the **Table 15** below. District specific details can be referred to **Appendix 14** (Volume II).

Table 15: Summary Resettlement Impacts

S. N.	Particulars	Total
1	Total Number of Affected Households	984
2	Number of Physically Displaced Households	155
3	Number of Economically displaced Households	828
4	Number of Physically and Economically Displaced Households	1
5	Number of Vulnerable Households	475
6	Number of Scheduled Caste Households	157
7	Number of Scheduled Tribe Households	132
8	Number of titleholder Households losing only land (including Absentee Pattadar)	811
9	Number of Title holders losing homestead Land and Structure	62
10	Number of non-title holders losing Structure	93
11	Loss of livelihood (agricultural land, commercial structure and commercial cum residential structure, employees)	693

S. N.	Particulars	Total
12	Affected households require relocation	155
13	Affected households losing more than 10% of their productive assets	675

Source: Project Socio-economic and Census Survey, 2025

39. During the impact assessment and project census survey, some of the titleholders DPs could not be found or traced as they have either migrated for a long time or they might be living out of the village without establishing any contact with the people living in the village and have no tenant as well on the said land. Prior to the commencement of anti-erosion works, the RIPP will again be updated based on the verification survey. FREMAA with the help from the RIPP implementation NGO, shall make continuous efforts throughout the contract period to track the absentee titleholder, if anyone is not available to receive compensation. Some of the efforts that shall be taken are listed below.

- Disseminating the information about the project and affected land details with ownership to the nearby non-affected villages/towns
- Enquires with another local circle officer within his circle
- Enquires with the non-affected adjacent villagers, Gaon Burah/ Panchayat Offices
- Enquiries with the fellow affected families/persons who stay in other village/town and have availed received compensation
- Enquires with the Relatives and/or friends of the affected families/persons who are not availed compensation and traced
- Disseminating about the project and affected land details with ownership and enquires with local community-based organization etc.

L. Assessment of Proposed Nature Based Solution Component

40. As a continuation of original project activities under CRBIFRERMP Phase I, the nature-based solution is proposed to be implemented by Assam Agroforestry Development Board (AADB) as an initiative under the proposed additional financing project. To support this work, rehabilitation of existing and new nurseries is proposed. The nature-based solutions will be executed once the riverbank works have been implemented under the project, thereby providing AADB adequate time for identification of existing nurseries, finalization of detailed planning. This will be confined to the existing nursery lands owned and managed by the forest department and no land acquisition and resettlement impacts are envisaged under the mentioned activities related to nurseries. During the project implementation period, FREMAA will review the detailed proposal with the help of PISC and ensure incorporation of necessary updates to this RIPP or prepare social safeguard due diligence report in compliance with ADB SPS-2009.

M. Assessment Livelihood Infrastructure Component

41. It has been found that the project areas located along flood embankments and char lands are highly vulnerable to recurrent floods and riverbank erosion. Poor and destitute households living in these fragile geographies are among the most affected, with limited livelihood options, loss of assets, shelters, insecure land tenure, and inadequate access to formal markets. To address these vulnerabilities, enhance their livelihood opportunities and enhance disaster resilience, as proposed under Output 3 of CRBIFRERMP (Additional Financing), the development or establishment of weaving centers and establishment of rural markets on available government-owned land emerges as a potential, viable and sustainable intervention.

42. Identification of Locations (Villages) for weaving centers and rural market: Government-owned lands (revenue, panchayat, or embankment-side vacant land) near clusters of flood-affected settlements will be utilised. In this regard, the team of consultant and FREMAA has been exploring different livelihood options, and an assessment has also been under way for selection of suitable sites for establishment of weaving centres and rural markets. Once the locations are identified, the due diligence report will be prepared to confirm the absence of any IR impact to be caused by the suggested activity.

43. Selection of villages will be based on: a) proximity to affected households; b) Concentration of poor and flood-affected families residing on embankments and char lands; c) accessibility and connectivity (proximity to roads, ferry points, or transport routes); d) existing skill base in weaving and potential interest among women and youth; e) Feasibility of developing flood-resilient infrastructure (availability of higher ground or scope of elevation); f) priority to areas that are frequently affected by floods and erosion where alternative livelihood support is urgently required; g) villages with a cultural tradition of weaving, especially among women, to build on existing skills; h) Local community support and readiness to participate in collective livelihood initiatives; i) Market linkages of the products and to enhance the market accessibility ii) scope of convergence with government schemes (handloom promotion, rural markets, livelihood missions, disaster resilience programs etc.).

III. SOCIO ECONOMIC INFORMATION AND PROFILE

A. Project District Profile

44. Under additional financing of Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project in Assam (CRBIFRERMP); the project will combine both structural and nonstructural measures in 44 high-priority flood- and erosion prone areas to contribute to the broader stabilization of the river. The 44 high-priority subprojects characterized by a high risk of riverbank erosion, and valuable assets under threat, are Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Biswanath, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Sonitpur, Nagaon, Morigaon, Barpeta, Goalpara and Dhubri District. The districts are located in the Himalayan region's Central Brahmaputra Valley agro-climatic zone. The details of the districts are as follows:

45. **Biswanath** district is an administrative district of Assam, which is newly created in the year 2015. Though it was remerged with Sonitpur district in 2022 but in 2023 it was again restored as Biswanath district. It is located towards the north bank of the river Brahmaputra. Biswanath used to be part of larger Sonitpur district during the 2011 census survey. Hence, there is no separate demographic data available for Biswanath and the same has been reflected in the demographic details of Sonitpur district as presented below.

46. **Sonitpur** is a district in Assam under North Assam Division. In 1983, Darrang District was bifurcated to Darrang district and Sonitpur district. Tezpur became the headquarters of Sonitpur District. Sonitpur district had the second largest area of districts in Assam, at 5,324 square kilometers. It has got one sub-division, five revenue circles and seven developments blocks. Almost 600,000 people in the district are from communities residing in Assam since pre-colonial times, making up around 46% of the population. It is also home to various ethnic communities such as- Assamese Brahmins, Koch Rajbongshis, Ahom, Karbi, Keot (Kaibarta), Mising, Nath Jogis, Bodo, Thengal Kachari, Chutia, Rabha, Gorkhas, Adivasi or tea garden tribes and other communities of Assam.

47. **Lakhimpur** district is situated on the Northeast corner of Assam and at the north bank of the River Brahmaputra. The river Brahmaputra along with Majuli District stands on the southern side and Gohpur subdivision of Biswanath District is on the West. It has two sub-divisions, seven revenue circles and nine development Blocks. It has a long history in terms of tribal population residing there as Lakhimpur figures largely in the annals of Assam as the region where tribes from the east first reached the Brahmaputra. It is home to tribes like Mishing, Deori and Chutias. Mishing, the riverine tribes are majorly residing in this district compared to other tribe-oriented districts of Assam.

48. **Morigaon** district, situated in Assam's Central Brahmaputra Valley agro-climatic zone, spans 1,450.02 sq. km and benefits from fertile conditions ideal for cereal cultivation. With agriculture as its economic backbone, the district exhibits high farming intensity and engages over half its population in agricultural activities. Bounded by the Brahmaputra, Karbi Anglong, Nagaon, and Kamrup, Morigaon is well connected by road and rail. As per the 2011 census, it has a population of 957,853, a density of 617 people per sq. km, a sex ratio of 967 females per 1000 males, a literacy rate of 68.03%, and a Scheduled Tribe population of 12.45%.

49. **Kamrup** district in Assam, established in 2003 with its headquarters at Amingaon, covers 2,740 sq. km and is well-connected by air, rail, and road. Its economy is largely agrarian, supported by fertile Brahmaputra plains and rich forest resources. Sualkuchi, known as the "Manchester of Assam," is famous for traditional silk fabrics. The district also has small-scale

industries including food processing and textiles, with 28 industrial units aiding growth. As per the 2011 census, Kamrup had a population of 1.52 million, a literacy rate of 75.55%, a sex ratio of 946, and SC/ST populations of 7.11% and 12% respectively.

50. **Barpeta** district, located in Lower Assam on the south bank of the Brahmaputra River, had a population of 1.69 million as per the 2011 Census, with a sex ratio of 953 females per 1000 males and an overall literacy rate of 63.81%. Predominantly rural (91.3%), its economy is largely agrarian, focusing on crops like paddy, pulses, and oilseeds. The district reflects a strong rural character and cultural diversity, with Scheduled Castes comprising 5.29% and Scheduled Tribes 1.10% of the population.

51. **Nagaon** District, spanning approximately 3,973 sq km in central Assam, is one of the larger districts of Assam, predominantly rural in character with about 86.9% of its population residing in villages. According to the 2011 Census, the population was 1.89 million, with sex ratio of 966 females per 1,000 males. The literacy rate is 72.37%, with male literacy at 76.51% and female literacy at 68.07%. The district is mainly agrarian known as the “Rice Bowl of Assam” with agriculture, handloom weaving, and small-scale industries (like rice, jute, sugar, and perfume) forming its economic backbone. Scheduled Castes constitute 8.3% and Scheduled Tribes about 4.6% of the population, with tribes such as the Karbi, Tiwa, Bodo prominent among the STs.

52. **Dhemaji** district, located in northeastern Assam, had a population of 686,133 as per the 2011 Census, with 92.96% living in rural areas and a sex ratio of 949 females per 1000 males. Literacy stands at 72.7%, with notable gender disparity. Classified as one of Assam’s most backward districts, it receives support under the Backward Regions Grant Fund. Agriculture is the mainstay, supplemented by sericulture, fishing, and small trade. The district has a strong tribal presence, with Scheduled Tribes making up 47.45% of the population, including Mishing, Bodo, Deori, and Sonowal Kachari communities.

53. **Sivasagar** district in Upper Assam, once the seat of the Ahom Kingdom, is renowned for its historical and cultural heritage. With a population of 1.15 million (2011 Census) and a high literacy rate of 81.36%, the district reflects a strong educational foundation. Its economy is primarily agrarian, supported by agriculture, tea cultivation, and oil production. The population includes Assamese-speaking communities, Tea Tribes, Ahoms, Moran, Muttock, and tribal groups like Deori and Mishing, who enrich its cultural diversity. While urban areas show economic progress, rural regions still depend on traditional livelihoods, with development efforts underway.

54. **Jorhat** district in Upper Assam had a population of 1.09 million as per the 2011 Census, with a sex ratio of 952 and a high literacy rate of 82.15%. Its economy is driven by agriculture, tea cultivation, oil and gas, handloom weaving, and small-scale industries. Jorhat town serves as a hub for trade, education, and research, while rural areas rely mainly on farming. Scheduled Castes and Tribes make up 6.92% and 12.09% of the population respectively, with communities like the Tea Tribes, Sonowal Kachari, Mishing, and Thengal Kachari enriching its cultural landscape, though some rural pockets still face development challenges.

55. **Golaghat** district in Upper Assam had a population of 1.06 million as per the 2011 Census, with a sex ratio of 961 and a literacy rate of 77.43%. The economy is largely agrarian, driven by paddy cultivation, tea production, handloom weaving, and small-scale industries. While rural areas depend on agriculture and tea garden work, urban centres focus on trade and services. Scheduled Castes and Tribes account for 7.40% and 19.23% of the population respectively, with communities like the Tea Tribes, Mishing, and Sonowal Kachari contributing to the district’s cultural richness, though development gaps persist in rural and tribal regions.

56. **Sonitpur** district in northern Assam had a population of 1.92 million as per the 2011 Census, with a sex ratio of 946 and a literacy rate of 69.45%. Its economy is primarily agrarian, supported by paddy, tea, horticulture, and allied activities, along with small-scale industries and services. Most residents live in rural areas, while Tezpur serves as an urban hub for education and commerce. Scheduled Castes and Tribes make up 6.45% and 12.72% of the population respectively, with communities like the Bodo, Mishing, and Tea Tribes enriching the district's cultural heritage, though rural and tribal regions still face development challenges.

57. According to the 2011 census, the demographic profile of all the thirteen districts are given below in **Table 16**.

Table 16: Demographic Profile of State and Project Districts

Demographic profile of the State and Project Districts												
State/ District Name	Number of Town	Number of Villages	Total Population	Rural Population %	Urban Population %	Area is sq Km	Population Density/Km2	Sex Ratio	Literacy ratio (%)	Schedule Tribe %	Total Worker (% of total population)	Composition of Females in total worker %
Assam	214	26395	31205576	85.9	14.1	78438	398	958	72.19	12.45	38.4	28.64
Project Districts												
Dhubri	9	1091	1949258	89.55	10.45	2176	896	953	58.3	0.3	34.4	21.64
Goalpara	11	829	1008183	86.31	13.69	1824	553	964	67.37	23	36	26.33
Barpeta	9	835	1693622	91.2	8.8	2282	742	953	63.8	1.6	33.2	20.74
Morigaon	6	632	957423	92.34	7.66	1551	617	967	68.03	14.3	36.7	26.53
Nagaon	17	1412	2823768	86.9	13.1	3973	711	962	72.4	4.1	34.7	21.76
Sonitpur	8	1876	1,924,110	90.96	9.04	5,204	370	956	67.34	12.1	40	30.29
Biswanath												
Lakhimpur	4	484	1,042,137	91.24	8.76	2,277	458	968	77.2	23.9	41.3	34.36
Dhemaji	4	1319	686133	92.9	7.1	3237	212	953	72.7	46.2	46.2	41.11
Sivasagar	7	875	1151050	90.4	9.6	2668	431	954	80.4	4.3	42.2	33.07
Jorhat	11	848	1092256	79.8	20.2	2851	383	962	82.1	12.8	45.7	35.67
Golaghat	7	1125	1066888	90.8	9.2	3502	305	964	77.4	10.5	45	35.59
Kamrup	16	1068	1517542	90.7	9.3	3105	489	949	75.5	12	41.4	31.87

Source: Census of India, 2011

B. General Socio-economic Profile of DPs

58. There are 984 households which are going to be impacted under the sub project. The socio-economic information gathered for all 984 HHs through the census survey are presented in the following sections.

59. **Number of DPs.** There are 4522 DPs in total being affected by the project which includes 2688 (59.44%) male and 1834 (40.56%) female. The average household size is 4.6 among the DPs. The sex ratio in Assam is 958 females per 1000 male. Out of the 13 project districts, there is no DPs identified in the district of Kamrup because only Government land is affected. The

details of DPs being affected in the project are presented in the **Table 17**. District wise details are given in **Appendix 15** (Volume II).

Table 17: Number of Displaced Persons

Sl. No.	Categories of DPs	No. of DPs	%
1	Male	2688	59.44
2	Female	1834	40.56
Total		4522	100.00
3	Sex Ratio	958	
4	Aver Household Size	4.6	

Source: Project Census conducted for Affected HHs, 2025

60. **Social Categories of the DPs.** The social stratification of the project area shows dominance of general caste 573 (58.23%) followed by Schedule Caste (SC) households 157 (15.96%), 132 (13.41%) Scheduled Tribe (ST) household and other Backward Caste (OBC) population with 116 (12.40%) households and among affected households as identified. The details of social grouping in the project area are presented in the **Table 18**. District wise details are given in **Appendix 16** (Volume II).

Table 18: Social Categories of the DPs

S. N.	Social Categories	Number of Households	%
1	Scheduled Caste	157	15.96
2	Scheduled Tribe	132	13.41
3	Other Backward Caste	122	12.40
4	General Caste	573	58.23
Total		984	100

Source: Project Census conducted for Affected HHs, 2025

61. **Religious Categories of the DPs.** The religious categories of the DPs show Hinduism and Muslim almost equally dominated religion in the 13 project districts. The details of the religious categories of the project area are given in **Table 19**. District wise details are given in **Appendix 17** (Volume II).

Table 19: Religious Categories of the DPs

S. N.	Religious Categories	Number of Households	%
1	Hindu	494	50.20
2	Muslim	490	49.80
Total		984	100

Source: Project Census conducted for Affected HHs, 2025

62. **Educational Status of DPs.** The educational status of DPs excluding children below 6 years, reveals that 10154 (22.62%) DPs are illiterate. Among the literate DPs, 739(16.47%) are considered to be literate, 944 (21.04%) DPs have studied up to middle school, 614(13.68%) DPs matric fail, 79217.65%) DPs have passed matriculation exam, 348 (7.76%) DP have completed graduation (post-secondary) while 35 (0.78%) are post- graduate as per census survey. The gender segregated details of educational status of DPs are presented in the

63.

64. **Table 20.** District wise details are given in **Appendix 18** (Volume II).

Table 20: Educational Status of DPs

S. N.	Educational status	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
1	Illiterate	365	35.96	650	64.04	1015	22.62
2	Literate	302	40.87	437	59.13	739	16.47
3	Up to middle	427	45.23	517	54.77	944	21.04
4	Below metric	287	46.74	327	53.26	614	13.68
5	Metric	326	41.16	466	58.84	792	17.65
6	Graduate	197	56.61	151	43.39	348	7.76
7	Above graduate	19	54.29	16	45.71	35	0.78
Total		1923		2564	100	4487	100

Source: Project Census conducted for Affected HHs, 2025

65. **Occupational Status of DPs.** The occupational distribution of Displaced Persons (DPs), excluding children, students, homemakers, the unemployed, and other inactive individuals, indicates that a significant majority i.e. 1,523 DPs (63.86% are engaged in agricultural activities in the project districts, except Kamrup. This is followed by 543 DPs (22.77%) working as laborers, 157 DPs (6.58%) involved in business, and 135 DPs (5.66%) employed in various service sectors. A small fraction of the population includes 23 DPs (0.96%) in professional occupations and 4 DPs (0.17%) who are pensioners. Notably, 112 DPs (4.51%) remain unemployed within the project area. The details of occupational status of DPs are summarized in the **Table 21**. District wise details are given in **Appendix 19** (Volume II).

Table 21: Occupational Status of DPs

S. N.	Occupational status	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
1	Service	80	59.26	55	40.74	135	5.66
2	Business	92	58.60	65	41.40	157	6.58
3	Agriculture	900	59.09	623	40.91	1523	63.86
4	Labour	363	66.85	180	33.15	543	22.77
5	Professional	3	75.00	1	25.00	4	0.17
6	Unemployees	51	45.54	61	54.46	112	4.51
7	Pensioner	9	39.13	14	60.87	23	0.96
Total		1447	60.67	938	39.33	2385	100

Source: Project Census conducted for Affected HHs, 2025

66. **Annual Income Level of the Affected Households.** There are 361 (36.69%) households earning less than the official per capita income i.e. Rs 1,20,336 per year³. The survey reveals that 524 households (53.25%) having an average monthly income of above Rs 1,20,336 and up to Rs 200,000 Among others, 35 (3.56 %) households are earning above Rs 200,000 and 61 (6.20%) households are earning above Rs 300,000 which is a good economic indicator of their standard of living. The average income level of households in the project area is summarized in the **Table 22**. District specific data is appended as **Annexure 20** (Volume II).

Table 22: Annual Income Level Wise Affected Households

³ The per capita income is as per NSDP current price for the year 2022-23, Directorate of Economics and Statics, Government of Assam.

S. N.	Annual Income Categories in (Rs)	Number of HHs	%
1	Below 1,20,336	361	36.69
2	Above 1,20,336 and up to 200,000	524	53.25
3	Above 200,000 and Below 300,000	35	3.56
4	Above 300,000	61	6.20
5	Not Responded/Found	3	0.30
Total		984	100

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

C. Vulnerability Status of Project Affected Households

67. According to the project census survey, a total of 413 households has been identified as vulnerable. This group comprises of 157 Scheduled Caste (SC) households, 132 Scheduled Tribe (ST) households, and 21 women-headed households. Additionally, 12 households are headed by elderly individuals, while 10 households fall under Antyodaya⁴ scheme identified as poor. Furthermore, 81 households are non-titleholders (squatters) who do not fall under any other specified category of vulnerability. Summary of vulnerable HHs envisaged to be impacted Table 23 whereas the district specific details of impacted vulnerable HHs are reflected as **Annexure 21** (Volume II).

Table 23: Total Number of Vulnerable Households Being Affected

Sl. No.	Category of Vulnerability	Total Number of HHs
1	Schedule caste Households	157
2	Schedule Tribe Households	132
3	Women Headed Households	21
4	Elderly Headed of HH	12
5	Antyodaya Beneficiaries	10
6	NTH Households	93
Total Without Double Counting		413

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025, 2024

D. Project Impact on Women

68. For the sub-project activities of additional financing under CRBIFRERMP, a total of 40 women-headed households has been identified to be affected during the proposed intervention. While conducting the census survey, it was observed that women of 778 households reported having a role in financial decision-making within the family, while 788 households indicated active participation in social decision-making within the community. The details are given in

⁴ Antodaya scheme covers marginalized poor groups such as landless agricultural laborers, marginal farmers, rural artisans, slum dwellers, and households headed by the elderly or those with disabilities and no assured means of subsistence.

69. **Table 24.** Details may be referred to **Appendix 22** (Volume II).

Table 24: Role of Women in Financial and Social Decision Making

Sl. No.	Decision Making	Total	%
1	Yes, Financial Decision Making	778	79.06
2	Social Decision Making	788	80.08
	Total Number Households	984	

Source:: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

70. **Assets owned by the Women.** Out of total households surveyed, 27 households are such, where women have land by their name, 108 households have women with houses by their name, women in 18 households have four wheelers, 111 women were also found to own two wheelers, around 737 have cell phones and 16 HH have their personal computer. The total number of HHs where women is in possession of assets is given in below **Table 25** and the district specific details of the same is presented as **Annexure 23** (Volume II).

Table 25: Number of Households having Women with Different Assets

Sl. No.	Type of Assets	No. of HHs where Women is in Possession of Assets
1	Land (Homestead or Farmland)	27
2	House	108
3	Four-Wheeler (Car/tractor etc.)	18
4	Two-Wheeler (Scooter/Cycle etc.)	111
5	Cell Phone	737
6	Personal Computer	16

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

71. **Bank Account.** The women were asked about their separate bank account at the household level, and it was found that about 781 (79.37%) households have women with their separate bank accounts. This is largely due to the government policies of empowering poor and girl children for financial securities in particular. The details are provided in the **Table 26**. District specific details may be referred in **Appendix 24** (Volume II).

Table 26: Number of Households having Women with Bank Account

S. N.	Bank Account	No. of households	%
1	Yes	781	79.37
2	No	33	3.35
3	Not Responded/Absentee	170	17.28
	Total	984	100

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

72. **Member in Self Help Group.** The women in affected households were asked about their participation in any self-help group as a member. As shown in

73. **Table 27**, it was revealed that women in only around 351 (35.675) households were found to be member of a self-help group and on the other hand a large proportion of were also found with no SHG membership. Around none of them had apprehension that relocation due to construction of sub project might affect their working in the SHG.

Table 27: Number of Households having Women as Member of SHG

S. N.	SHG Members	No. Of households	
1	Yes	351	35.67
2	No/Not Responded/Absentee	633	64.33
	Total	984	100

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

74. **Women Benefiting from Development Scheme.** The survey result shows that 476 women in project area have received benefits under different government schemes. Around 213 women of the affected HHs have benefited under Government housing scheme i.e., Prime Minister Awas yojana (PMAY). Among others, 182 numbers of households got employment. Further only 80 households of the total affected have benefited under Arun Odoi Government scheme. The details are provided in **Table 28**. District specific details may be referred in **Appendix 25** (Volume II).

Table 28: Number of Women Benefiting from Development Scheme

S. N.	Type of Benefits	No of Household	%
1	Loan	1	0.10
2	House	213	21.65
3	Employment	182	18.50
5	Antodaya	80	8.13
6	No Response/Absentee	565	57.42
	Total Households	984	100.0

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

75. As per the findings of consultation with women group, the perceived benefits from the sub project includes, reduced flood risk and uncertainty, protection of house and land, protection of crops and livestock, improved quality of life etc.

76. During the consultation process the negative impacts could not be easily articulated by the women apart from loss of shelters, assets and livelihoods due to the project requirement. Some of them raised their concern for loss of current social and community interactions they are living with.

77. There are 40 female headed households envisaged to be affected in the project. In Table no 24, it is seen that 108 numbers of women are having houses in their name though all women may not be the head of the household which actually is 40 in number. Furthermore, 27 females were also found to have land by their name. This is positive sign as women are having properties in their name and is a clear sign of women empowerment. The negative impacts of the sub-project on female-headed households will be taken up on a case-to-case basis and assistance to these households will be treated on a priority basis. During disbursement of compensation and provision of assistance, priority will be given to female-headed households. Additionally, women headed households are considered as vulnerable and provision for additional assistance has been made in the entitlement of the resettlement plan. Provision for equal wage and health safety facilities during the construction by the contractor will be ensured by the executing agency.

IV. SUBPROJECT IMPACT ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

A. Tribal People in Assam

78. As per the census 2011, there are 3.88 million tribal people in Assam, which accounts for 12.45% of the total population as per census 2011. Out of the total ST population, approx. 1.96 million are male and approx. 1.93 million tribal population recorded as female as per census 2011. Tribals are living throughout the state; but in certain districts such as Dima Hasao, Karbi Anglong, Dhemaji, Baksa, Chirang, Udalguri, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur and Goalpara tribal predominance is significantly high. The overall sex ratio among tribal people is 984, which is marginally less than the national average of 990. The tribal population in Assam is predominantly higher with 94.36% residing in rural areas followed by 5.63 % in urban areas.

79. Assam is an ethnically diverse state with different languages, traditions, and cultural practices; it is the melting pot of a large number of ethnic tribes and races, which have infused richness in the cultural tapestry of Assam. Major tribes within the autonomous districts of Assam are mainly Chakma (0.05%), Dimasa, Kachari (2.65%), Garo (0.65%), Hajong (0.01%), Hmar(0.41%), Khasi, Jaintia and others (0.41%), Any Kuki Tribes (0.86%); Man- Tai speaking (0.03%), Any Mizo-Lushai Tribe (0.02%), Karbi (11.08%), Any Naga tribes (0.77%), Pawi (7.72%), Lalung (0.47%) and major tribes of Assam excluding the autonomous districts are: Bodo (35.1%), Barmans(0.17%), Deori (1.13%), Hojai (0.02%), Mishing (17.52%), Hajong (0.88%), Singhpho (0.06%), Khampti(0.03%), Rabha (7.63%), Sonowal Kachari (6.5%), Lalung (4.70%), Garo (3.50%), and Dimasa (0.50%).

80. All-subproject districts within proposed CRBIFRERMP II (additional financing) are not falling under Autonomous Council. Following are the ST districts falling under Autonomous Council within the Assam. These districts are presented in the **Table 29** below.

Table 29: ST population in ST districts of Assam

S. N.	District	Total Population	ST Population	Percentage of ST
1	Dima Hasao	214,102	151,843	70.9
2	Karbi Anglong	956,313	538,738	56.3
3	Dhemaji	686,133	325,560	47.4
4	Baksa	950,075	331,007	34.8
5	Chirang	482,162	178,688	37.1
6	Udalguri	831,668	267,372	32.1
7	Kokrajhar	887,142	278,665	31.4

Source: Census of India, 2011

81. These seven districts together account for 53.3% of the tribal population of the State. Inter-district variation of ST population in other districts is however quite large – as low as 0.1% in Hailakandi district to as high as 23% in Goalpara and 23.9% in Lakhimpur district. Another interesting aspect of distribution of tribal population in Assam is that most of the plain tribes⁵ are

⁵According to the list of scheduled tribes in the Indian constitution [order, 1950(a)], there are 23 tribes (14 Hills and 9 Plains) in Assam. The 14 Hills tribes are Chakma, Dimasa, Garo, Hajong, Hmar, Khasi and Jaintia, Lakher, Maan (Tai speaking), Karbi, Pawi, Syntheng, any Kuki tribes, any Mizo tribes and any Naga tribes. The 9 Plains tribes are Barman, Bodo, Deori, Hojai, Sonowal Kachari, Tiwa or Lalung, Mech, Mising and Rabha.

inhabitants of Brahmaputra valley and only a small proportion live in Brahmaputra River System Valley.

82. The literacy rate among tribal in Assam is 72.1%, which broadly mirrors the overall literacy rate of the state; and is well above the national average. However, the gap between the male and female literacy rate (79% & 65% respectively) highlights that tribal women are still lagging on educational attainment. The overall economic condition of an average tribal household appears to be similar (or slightly better) than that of an ordinary household. In Census 2011, only 18.6% of tribal households reported an absence of any durable household assets, which is 5 percentage points lower than that of all social groups. However, access to banking services and grid electricity are considerably lower.

B. Scheduled Areas of Assam

83. The tribal people normally live in contiguous areas; and their lives are closely associated with the nature – streams, trees, plants, animals etc. It is therefore recognized that maintaining their identities would invariably mean keeping their traditional environments intact with them. Given the contiguous inhabitations, it also becomes simpler to have area approach for development activities and also regulatory provisions to protect their interests. In order to protect the interests of the tribal population, provision of Sixth Schedule is enshrined in the Constitution of India under Articles 244(2) and 275(1)⁶ to enable autonomous administration of the tribal areas of Assam. Six Tribal Autonomous districts of Assam: Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao, Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa & Udalguri have been declared as the Scheduled Areas.

⁶Constitution of India, SIXTH SCHEDULE [Articles 244(2) and 275(1)] Provisions as to the Administration of Tribal Areas in [the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram] <https://www.mea.gov.in/Images/pdf1/S6.pdf>

Figure 3: Sixth Scheduled Areas of Assam (in Green Colour)



84. The administration of these autonomous areas is vested in the Autonomous Councils established as per the provisions laid down in the Sixth Schedule. These councils are endowed with legislative, judicial executive and financial powers. They are also expected to oversee the traditional bodies in local tribes. The Autonomous Councils have power to make laws related to land administration and inheritance of property, management of forest and water-resources, regulation of Jhum cultivation practice, establishing village or town committees and matter relating to tribal administration, marriage and social customs. The Autonomous Councils of Assam have been conferred with additional powers to make laws within its areas on delegated subjects.

C. Tribal Scenario of the Project Area

85. The proposed CRBIFRERMP II (Additional financing) will cover 13 districts of Assam, none of which fall under any of the scheduled area districts predominantly inhabited by the tribal population. Among the thirteen districts falling under the Project, Dhemaji has the highest rate at 47.45% and Dhubri has the lowest rate at 0.32% of tribal population. These tribal communities include those that have migrated from the tribal groups belonging to the scheduled areas. Details of tribal populations in project districts are presented in the

86. **Table 30.**

Table 30: Number ST Population in Project Districts

District Name	Total Population	Rural		Urban		Total			
		M	F	M	F	M	F	Grand Total	% of ST
Dhubri	1949258	2831	2800	367	334	3198	3134	6332	0.32
Goalpara	1008183	110337	109534	5676	6023	116013	115557	231570	22.97
Barpeta	1693622	12810	13019	720	795	13530	13814	27344	1.61
Morigaon	957423	65266	65282	3116	3113	68382	68395	136777	14.29
Nagaon	2823768	54926	54623	2833	2771	57759	57394	115153	4.08
Sonitpur (undivided) including Biswanath	1,924,110	115789	112556	1896	1966	117685	114522	232207	12.07
Lakhimpur	1,042,137	123499	119646	3217	3064	126716	122710	249426	23.93
Dhemaji	686133	161268	155947	4181	4164	165449	160111	325560	47.45
Sibasagar	1151050	24078	23196	911	854	24989	24050	49039	4.26
Jorhat	1092256	67932	66429	2863	2747	70795	69176	139971	12.81
Golaghat	1066888	55035	53939	1385	1406	56420	55345	111765	10.48
Kamrup	1517542	91154	89038	940	906	92094	89944	182038	12.00

Source: Census of India, 2011

87. A diverse range of tribal communities has been recorded across the 13 project districts. According to the 2011 Census, the Missing community accounts for the highest proportion of the Scheduled Tribe (ST) population at approximately 35.99%, followed by the Bodo community at 21.97%, and the Rabha community at 11.44% & Lalung at 9.69%. The remaining 20.91% comprises other ST communities such as Barman, Deori, Kachari (Sonowal), Hojai, Mech, Dimasa, Hajong, Singhpo, Khamti, and Garo.". Details of **Table 31**.

Table 31**Table 31: Scheduled Tribe Community in Project Districts**

District Name	Total ST Population	Missing/Miri	Bodo, Borokachari	Rava	Lalung	Others
Dhubri	6332	7	1203	235	10	4379
Goalpara	231570	21	41224	103757	30	91509
Barpeta	27344	1	25311	152	5	825
Morigaon	136777	31	12070	153	109530	13676
Nagaon	115153	178	17317	2263	58511	37996
Sonitpur (undivided)	232,207	49028	154311	4161	86	10060
Lakhimpur	249,426	197886	10711	274	432	51411
Dhemaji	325560	220042	45392	2332	6130	51470
Sivasagar	49039	27834	3554	124	55	25080
Jorhat	139971	102270	4103	137	103	36415
Golaghat	111765	53028	29994	2085	217	21351
Kamrup (R)	182038	125	51885	91034	17	33628
Total	1807182	650451 (35.99%)	397075 (21.97%)	206707 (11.44%)	175126 (9.69%)	377800 (20.91%)

Source: Census of India, 2011

88. The socio-economic status of ST households in the 13 project districts as per the socio-economic caste census of 2011 shows that out of total 374564 ST households residing in the project districts, 16.27% households are landless. Among other indicators, it reveals that 3.17% of households have non-agricultural enterprises, 7.51% are government salaried job, 0.36% working in various Government positions and 1.26% are engaged in private sectors. The details presented in the **Table 32**.

Table 32: Socio Economic Status of ST households in 13 districts

District Name	Total number of Households	Landless	Having non-agricultural enterprise	Salaried job (Government)	Salaried job (Public)	Salaried job (Private)
Dhubri	1669	824	63	141	2	7
Goalpara	46452	13957	2112	3974	146	282
Barpeta	5602	2144	236	870	19	75
Morigaon	29283	5576	539	2185	78	354
Nagaon	32601	6106	726	2977	165	522
Sonitpur (Undivided, including Biswanath)	50995	6171	1359	2668	129	786
Lakhimpur	47429	5448	1204	3024	137	785
Dhemaji	59858	2963	1835	3613	250	458
Sibasagar	10118	1534	397	1209	93	300
Jorhat	26647	2509	1229	2786	108	371
Golaghat	24311	2183	697	1456	114	287
Kamrup	39599	11514	1472	3236	118	483
Total	374564	60929 (16.27%)	11869 (3.17%)	28139 (7.51%)	1359 (0.36%)	4710 (1.26%)

Source: Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011

D. Project Impact on Indigenous People

89. Under output 1 of the project there will be infrastructure development, which will have IR impacts. However, as per the Project census survey, 132 tribal households are affected under this subproject, especially in Biswanath, Dhemaji, Sivasagar, Golaghat, Morigaon and Lakhimpur as presented in **Table 33**. Out of the mentioned number of affected tribal HHs, 122 are THs and 10 are NTHs. The project area is not primarily inhabited by tribal groups; however, there are households from riverine Mishing communities who live in the project area of Lakhimpur district. Further the project assessment confirmed that there are no adverse impacts to IPs identity, culture, and customary livelihoods.

Table 33: Summary of Impact on ST Households

Sl. No.	Category of IP Displaced Households	Category of DP		Total
		TH	NTH	
1	Physically Displaced Households	9	10	19
	(a) Owners of Residential Land	9	0	9
	(b) Owners of Residential Structure	0	10	10
2	Economically Displaced Households	94	0	94

SI. No.	Category of IP Displaced Households	Category of DP		Total
		TH	NTH	
	(a) Owners of Agricultural Land	94	0	94
	(b) Owners of Commercial Structure	0	0	0
3	Physically and Economically Displaced (Residential + Commercial)	0	0	0
4	Owners of Other Private (secondary structures like kitchen, toilet, boundary, frontage, shed etc.)	1	0	1
5	Other Affected Household Not Requiring Physical Displacement (Vacant unused land)	18	0	18
Total		122	10	132

90. As per the ADB SPS 2009 SR-3 (IP Safeguards) requirement, the project needs to obtain broad community support in case of specific project context and significant impact on IP⁷. Under the project there will be no commercial development of the cultural resources and knowledge of indigenous peoples, no physical displacement from traditional or customary lands; and no commercial development of natural resources within customary lands under use that would impact the livelihoods or the cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual uses that define the identity and community of Indigenous Peoples. Due to the continuous erosion of land people in general are ready to part away with a portion of their land for a permanent solution and protection of the remaining land. If the anti-erosion works are not undertaken the community will gradually lose their land and it will be threat to the existence of the riverine communities. The land ownership documents of affected ST villages are attached under **Appendix 53**.

91. During the social safeguard assessment, it was found that the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) present within the project activity corridor neither fall under the provisions of Schedule V nor do they fall under Schedule VI of the Constitution of India and hence are not governed by special administrative or autonomous council arrangements. Furthermore, these communities do not follow customary land tenure or traditional land management practices. As a result of which, a) no adverse impact on traditional rights is anticipated, since there are no customary land ownership systems or communal practices that may be disrupted by the project; b) Land acquisition and land use follow the same legal and administrative procedures applicable to the general population, ensuring parity and compliance with national laws; c) Cultural and social practices of the Indigenous households are not distinct from the mainstream communities in the area; hence, project interventions are not expected to cause any disruption to Indigenous identity, heritage, or customary livelihoods; d) The project impacts on IPs are not confined to any village or specific geographical boundary and spread out across several villages in 6 districts co-existed with non-IP population; (e) No adverse impact on traditional institutions, cultural heritage, or customary livelihood patterns is anticipated.

92. Since the project impacts on Indigenous Peoples are similar to those non-IPs under the Project, preparation of a stand-alone Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) is not considered. Instead, Indigenous households will be covered under the RIPP along with other affected persons. All

⁷ Broad community support is required if a project involve: (i) commercial development of the cultural resources and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples; (ii) physical displacement from traditional or customary lands; and (iii) commercial development of natural resources within customary lands under use that would impact the livelihoods or the cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual uses that define the identity and community of Indigenous Peoples.

entitlements, compensation, and livelihood restoration measures will be provided equally to Indigenous and non-Indigenous households based on eligibility and impact.

93. Land required for the project from Indigenous households will be obtained through negotiated purchase on a willing buyer–willing seller basis, using Assam Direct land purchase policy and ensuring transparency and mutual consent. Compensation will be provided at replacement cost along with applicable resettlement benefits, consistent with ADB’s Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, 2009).

94. As part of project implementation, the lands of Indigenous households will also be protected through anti-erosion works, thereby reducing risks of environmental degradation and ensuring long-term livelihood security.

95. Based on the above, as already mentioned, the project activities are not expected to trigger significant impacts under ADB’s Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, 2009) concerning Indigenous Peoples. However, the project will continue to:

- a. Ensure meaningful consultation with Indigenous households during planning and implementation stages.
- b. Provide equal access to project benefits (e.g., infrastructure, services, employment opportunities) to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations.
- c. Monitor inclusion and participation of Indigenous Peoples to ensure no form of marginalization occurs.

96. The analysis of the primary data collected through a census survey is given below:

97. Status of Displaced persons: As per the impact assessment census survey 132 ST household spread over in 6 districts is envisaged to be affected under CRBIFRERMP (Additional Financing). Out of the 132 households, there are 784 DPs in total being affected by the project which includes 426 (54.34%) male and 358 (45.66%) female. The average household size is 5.9 and the sex ratio among the DPs is 840 females per 1000 male. The details of DPs being affected in the project are presented in the **Table 34**.

Table 34 : Number of ST Displaced Persons

District Name	Number of Displaced Persons							Sex Ratio	Average Household Size
	Categories of DPs						Total		
	No. Household	Male		Female					
DPs		%	DPs	%					
Biswanath	2	9	56.25	7	43.75	16	778	8.0	
Dhemaji	64	199	54.52	166	45.48	365	834	5.7	
Shivsagar	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	1	0	1.0	
Golaghat	43	147	57.87	107	42.13	254	728	5.9	
Morigaon	10	32	47.06	36	52.94	68	1125	6.8	
Lakhimpur	12	38	47.50	42	52.50	80	1105	6.7	
Total	132	426	54.34%	358	45.66	784	840	5.9	

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

98. **Educational Status:** The survey shows that excluding children below the age of six, 189 (25.37%) persons are still illiterate, 70 (9.40%) are just literate, 131 (17.58%) of DPs are up to middle class, 162 (21.74%) are below metric, 138 (18.52%) are metric, 54 (7.25%) are graduate and one (0.13%) person who is found to be above graduate. The details educational level of ST Persons under the project is given in **Table 35**.

Table 35: Educational Level of the affected ST Persons under the Project

SI. No	Educational status	District Names							Total	%
		Biswanath	Dhemaji	Shivsagar	Golaghat	Morigaon	Lakhimpur			
1	Illiterate	6	100	0	57	18	8	189	25.37	
2	Just Literate	0	8	0	29	28	5	70	9.40	
3	Up to Middle School	3	64	1	36	4	23	131	17.58	
4	Below Metric	4	90	0	51	3	14	162	21.74	
5	Metric	3	73	0	47	5	10	138	18.52	
6	Graduate	0	31	0	9	6	8	54	7.25	
7	Above Graduate	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.13	
Total		16	367	1	229	64	68	745	100.00	

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

99. DPs, excluding children, students, homemakers, and other inactive individuals, indicates that 183 DPs (36.53%) are engaged in agricultural activities. This is followed by 116 DPs (23.15%) working as laborers, 67 DPs (19.77%) have remained unemployed, and 92 DPs (11.59%) in professional occupations. employed in various service sectors. A small fraction of the population includes 26 DPs (3.27%) in service, 16 DPs (2.02%) are doing business and 17 DPs (2.14%) who are pensioners. The details of occupational status of DPs (ST) are summarized in the **Table 36**.

Table 36 : Occupational status of DPs (ST)

SI. No	Occupational status	District Names							Total	%
		Biswanath	Dhemaji	Shivsagar	Golaghat	Morigaon	Lakhimpur			
1	Service	0	4	0	17	4	1	26	5.19	
2	Business	1	9	0	6	0	0	16	3.19	
3	Agriculture	5	121	1	6	32	18	183	36.53	
4	Labour	5	10	0	62	18	21	116	23.15	
5	Unemployed	5	8	0	23	6	25	67	13.37	
6	Professional	1	1	0	74	1	6	83	16.57	
7	Pensioner	0	1	0	9	0	0	10	2.00	
Total		17	154	1	197	61	71	501	100.00	

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

100. **Loss of Livelihoods.** The survey data reveals that due to the project, out of 132 tribal households 97 are losing their livelihoods by loss of agricultural land. No other commercial structures or any other income generating activities are being lost under the project. The ST affected households losing livelihoods will be eligible for one time assistance for skill upgradation as specified under the project entitlement matrix.

101. The project area is not solely a tribal area, and they are living with non-tribal population as well. The affected ST households are losing their land partially and they will continue to live in that same place as they used to be. Hence, there is no anticipation of the affected community is going to be landless under the project. The impacts on ST households are not considered significant, they are spread over the large project areas of 6 districts out of 13 districts, and they can be managed by the mitigative measures proposed in the RIPP. Effective mitigation measures are included under project entitlement matrix to compensate for their loss of land and non-land assets. Special vulnerability assistance will be provided each affected ST households under the Project. Due to continuous erosion this community is losing their land and in the verge of being landless in due course of time if protection measures proposed are not implemented immediately.

Table 37 : Magnitude of impact on land

SI No.	District	Up to 10%	10% to 25%	25% to 50%	50% to 75%	Above 75%	Total
1	Biswanath	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Dhemaji	0	14	36	3	2	55
3	Shivsagar	1	0	0	0	0	1
4	Morigao	1	4	4	1	0	10
5	Morigaon	1	4	4	1	0	10
6	Lakhimpur	7	0	4	1	0	12
Total		10	22	48	6	2	88

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

102. Output 1 of the proposed project will address the insecurity and stress caused by chronic flooding, river erosion, and livelihood losses through strengthening of embankments and riverbed stabilization measures. Therefore, the proposed project will benefit the entire population and no specific group.

103. Similarly, Output 2 will provide knowledge-based flood and riverbank erosion risk management strategies. This new knowledge will help to improve future community prevention, preparedness and response to the impacts of climate change

104. Output 3 of the project will specifically address vulnerable people's poverty and livelihood losses that occur due to frequent flooding and river erosion. Livelihood support for the most vulnerable, the poor and the landless, such as improved silk weaving, crafts, vegetable gardens and youth vocational training have already been taken up under original packages of CRBIFRERMP and will be repeated in new project locations for CRBIFRERMP (Additional Financing). Agricultural livelihood, such as improved crop production, beel fisheries, and strengthened market linkages will benefit the entire population and the ST communities too.

105. The key issues of all the tribal people in the project area are insecurity and stress caused due to chronic flooding, river erosion, which results in loss of assets and livelihood. Therefore, the proposed anti - erosion activities under CRBIFRERMP (Additional Financing) will benefit the entire population including tribal communities.

106. No customary land ownership practice for the tribal people prevails in the proposed area of intervention as they have legal landownership. In specifically, the conservation of their agricultural land it will be more beneficial as this project is going to arrest the river erosion, which in turn will protect them from loss of natural resources, assets and livelihood.

107. Given the low representation of STs in the project area and given that the project is not targeting solely STs. However, the project will ensure that the patterns chosen for training in the weaving centers are of mixed of Assamese and tribal patterns. Further, the project will not have any adverse impacts to IPs identity, culture, and customary livelihoods. Participation in all livelihood activities will be on a voluntary basis only, and the interventions are expected to have positive benefits only to STs who choose to participate.

108. The general project impacts to the tribal people are assessed based on the following criteria: (a) customary rights of use and access to land and natural resources; (b) Customary governance system; (c) Cultural practice; (d) Language used; (e) socioeconomic status; (f) health, education, livelihood, and social security status; and (g) the level of vulnerability of the affected Indigenous Peoples community.

- a) Customary right to land and natural resources: The customary right to land is prevalent only amongst the hills tribal people of Assam viz. Karbi's and Dimasa's of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao Autonomous hills districts of Assam. It is confirmed that there is no such customary use of land or any other natural resources in this subproject-affected area. In addition, no community structures belonging to IP population is going to be impacted under the proposed project.
- b) Customary Governance System: There is no customary governance system prevalent amongst the tribe in the subproject affected area. They follow the governance system similar to the other mainstream communities of Assam.
- c) Cultural Practice: The cultural practices of tribal people are similar to the mainstream people of Assam though there is diversity. The tribal people living within this subproject area participate in the common cultural practices though they have their own practice in the scheduled area.
- d) Language: Though the tribal families residing in the subproject area have their own dialect, they do not have any script and follow Assamese as their medium of instruction in schools and also use Assamese language for all official correspondences.
- e) Socioeconomic status: The socio-economic status of the tribal people is similar to the mainstream community of Assam.
- f) Health, education, livelihood, and social security status: The health, education, livelihood, and social security status of the tribal people are similar to the mainstream people of Assam, especially those who live near the flood prone areas of Assam. STs access the same privileges as all Assamese peoples, such that ST children participate mainstream schooling and health services.
- g) Level of vulnerability of the affected Indigenous Peoples community: The level of vulnerability of the affected tribal community due to the project activity is the same as

those of the non-tribal mainstream community. However, no negatively affected families enumerated under this subproject.

E. Beneficial Measures for Indigenous People

109. The RIPP provides guidance to guarantee culturally appropriate project implementation such as ensuring their participation in consultation, accessibility to GRM process, for indigenous people in the project areas, and to develop measures to minimize and mitigate any unavoidable adverse impacts. In general, the ST households support the project, because the project is designed to protect their land from erosion as they have lost most of their land in the river Brahmaputra over the years. Project impacts on affected ST households are both direct and indirect and beneficial in nature. The beneficial measures proposed under the project for the ST household are listed below:

- i. The project will protect the land of ST households from erosion and safeguard the life and natural resources they are depending on.
- ii. It will safeguard their shelters/settlements or residential structures as they are vulnerable to flood and river erosion
- iii. Due to the project interventions, land-based livelihood will be protected and enhanced
- iv. Under the project entitlement matrix, it has provisions for training and exploring alternate livelihood opportunities
- v. Special vulnerable assistance is considered as a provision to the vulnerable section including ST households
- vi. The project is expected to decrease the risk of natural disasters like flood and river erosion so that the communities living near the river can improve their standard of living and quality of life

F. List of ongoing Development Schemes for Indigenous Peoples in Assam

110. Thrust attention has been given in Assam so that Flagship schemes like PM Awas Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, MGNREGA, Arunodoi, Nijut Monia, and others effectively reach tribal households under tribal areas.

111. The Tribal RCH Program - This focuses on providing free, quality healthcare to tribal populations, especially for pregnant women and children via outreach camps, with dedicated health teams (MO, ANMs, pharmacist, lab tech, etc.)

112. Van Dhan Kendras (PM Van Dhan Yojana) - Assam is implementing this central initiative to promote forest-based tribal livelihoods, supporting quality control, product development, and market access through Tribal Van Dhan Kendras (VDVK clusters) under TRIFED.

113. Assam Bikash Yojana & CM's Special Employment Generation Program - Under the scheme, fund Program are allocated for self-employment of ST unemployed youths. Various schemes are taken up for generating self-employment to ST unemployed youths.

114. Educational Support via "Nijut Monia 2.0"- Although not exclusively tribal-focused, this new Nijut Monia 2.0 scheme provides monthly financial aid to higher secondary and college students across communities, including tribal students (up to Rs 2,500 for postgraduate learners).

115. Basundhara is an Assam government land reform initiative that provides land rights to landless people, including tribal communities. Under Mission Basundhara 3.0, groups like Scheduled Tribes (STs), Adivasis, and Tea Tribes are exempt from providing three-generation ancestry proof to establish land claims, a significant move to protect the rights of the "sons of the soil". The mission also includes other provisions beneficial to tribals, such as simplifying the conversion of Annual Patta land to Periodic Patta for permanent ownership, reviewing and potentially approving land applications rejected under previous phases, and allowing for the regularization of land used for non-tea purposes in tea grant areas.

V. STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION

A. Stakeholders in the Project

117. The purpose of the stakeholder consultation and public participation process is to ensure that stakeholders, interested and affected parties as well as the public are informed of the proposed project and activity, to solicit their views and opinions about the project. According to the ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009): “The borrower and client will carry out meaningful consultation with affected people and other concerned stakeholders, including civil society, and facilitate their informed participation. Meaningful consultation is a process that:

- Begins early in the project preparation stage and is carried out on an ongoing basis throughout the project cycle;
- Provides timely disclosure of relevant and adequate information that is understandable and readily accessible to affected people;
- Is undertaken in an atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion;
- Is gender inclusive and responsive, and tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups; and
- Enables the incorporation of all relevant views of affected people and other stakeholders into decision making, such as project design, mitigation measures, the sharing of development benefits and opportunities, and implementation issues.

118. Consultations with various stakeholders were carried out during the preparation of the RIPP in July and August 2025. The stakeholders in the project are both primary and secondary. The primary stakeholders are project displaced persons (DPs), project beneficiaries, Executing Agency, Implementing Agency especially the officials in FREMAA and WRD. The secondary stakeholder includes district magistrates and the revenue official, village heads, head of Gram Panchayat, village administrative officers, NGOs, civil society organisations, and business communities in the area.

B. Public Consultation in the Project

119. Public participation and community consultation have been taken up as an integral part of the project social and environmental assessment process. The site visits and discussions/meetings were conducted to assess land acquisition and resettlement impacts, inform and educate stakeholders about the project, and develop a community-inclusive design. The consultations were undertaken with key stakeholders, local community members, and the affected persons to help identify their concerns and apprehensions related to the project and their priorities. It was explained to the participants that the purpose of the infrastructure development is to improve the economic opportunities in the project area. The tools used for consultations were individual, stakeholders’ discussions and Focus Group Discussions (FGD). These consultations provided insights into the present situation and needs of the communities. The RIPP is prepared in consultation with stakeholders.

C. Methods of Public Consultation

120. Consultations and discussions were held along the project with the affected families and other stakeholders. All displaced households were consulted while interacting with them during

the project census survey. Consultation meetings were organized to get wider public input from both the primary and secondary stakeholders. The consultation methods followed to elicit required information (their views & opinions) are detailed below in **Table 38**.

Table 38: Methods of Public Consultations

Stakeholders	Consultation Method
Displaced Persons	Through Census Survey involving head of the household as respondent, Focused Group Discussion (FGD), Community Meeting
Village Head/representative of DPs	Through Focus Group Discussions (FGD) at affected villages
Local communities	Through Focus Group Discussions (FGD) at affected villages
Women's groups	Through Census survey and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) at affected villages
Vulnerable groups (SC, ST, BPL)	Through Focus Group Discussions (FGD) at affected villages
Executing Agency, Implementing Agency	Individual interview, discussion, joint field visit
Line Departments/Agencies	Individual meeting/interview, discussion

D. Scope of Consultation and Issues

121. All the survey and consultation meetings were organised to provide free and prior information to the displaced persons and participants. Women members of the survey team assisted women to present their views on their particular concerns. During the consultation process efforts were made by the survey teams to:

- (i) ascertain the views of the DPs, including the IPs with reference to the project proposal and possible impacts;
- (ii) understand views of the community on land acquisition, resettlement issues and rehabilitation options;
- (iii) Assess the issues and challenges specific to the Indigenous people and to understand the perspective of the IP population in regard to the project
- (iv) identify and assess the major socio-economic characteristics of the villages to enable effective planning and implementation;
- (v) obtain opinion of the community on issues related to the impacts on common property and relocation of the same;
- (vi) examine DPs' opinion on problems and prospects of flood related issues;
- (vii) identify people's expectations from project and their absorbing capacity;
- (viii) finally, to establish an understanding for identification of overall developmental goals and benefits of the project.

122. The first level of interaction and consultation with the stakeholders started during the initial stage of project while identifying the land use and ownership details of identified reaches and affected land parcels. The field supervisors appointed by FREMAA for each of the subproject districts conducted joint verification of land with the officials from revenue departments and other line department. The second level of consultation was carried out during the Project census survey through direct interaction with affected households and conducting focused group discussions in major villages/locations. The details of total FGDs conducted at different project sites during the census survey are presented in the **Table 39** and **Table 40**.

Table 39: Details of Focus Group Discussion Under the Project

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the Village	Coordinates	Date of Consultation	Participants		
					Male	Female	Total
1	Shivsagar	Jagara Habi	26.97196 N 94.52361 E	15/07/2025	14	8	22
2	Shivsagar	Charaguwa Gaon	26.78767676 N 93.65085207 E	29/07/2025	16	4	20
3	Biswanath	Tinsukia	26.8117659 N 93.73353926 E	06/07/2025	10	-	10
4	Biswanath	Shirakhuwa	26.78767676 N 93.65085207 E	06/07/2025	5	5	10
5	Biswanath	Biswanath	26.66356282 N 93.15974145 E	05/07/2025	10	3	13
6	North Lakhimpur	Bonpuroi	26.850353 N 93.80887 E	18/07/2025	15	5	20
7	Supari vita	Goalpara	26.8117659 N 93.73353926 E	02/08/2025	10	10	20
8	Dhubri	Balatari	25.97357793 N 90.11137005 E	03/08/2025	15	5	20
9	Barpeta	Balatari	26.25736539 N 91.19405378 E	23/07/2025	16	-	16
10	Barpeta	Bahari	26.245378 N 91.145736 E	30/07/2025	20	-	20
11	Morigaon	Lengeri bori	26.37418368 N 92.20772635 E	26/07/2025	14	6	20
12	Morigaon	Baralimari	26.35350075N 92.16702481E	30/07/2025	9	6	15
13	Morigaon	Gagalmari	26.290767 N 92.124557 E	30/07/2025	11	4	15
14	Nagaon	Raban bari	26.618186 N 92.940865 E	03/08/2025	4	2	6
15	Dhemaji	3 mile (Poba)	27.779439 N 95.290538 E	10/07/2025	7	2	9
16	Dhemaji	Badalpur	27.659927 N 95.002354 E	17/07/2025	17	3	20
17	Dhemaji	Karnapur	27.691763 N 95.05911 E	23/07/2025	9	5	14
18	Dhemaji	Bogoriguri	27.669076 N 95.023352 E	27/07/2025	6	13	19
19	Jorhat	Daini gaon	26.85878894 N	15/07/2025	16	7	23

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the Village	Coordinates	Date of Consultation	Participants		
					Male	Female	Total
			94.22992743 E				
20	Golaghat	Koroiguri	26.79619951 N 9397244904 E	14/07/2025	14	-	14
21	Sonitpur	DA-Parbatia	26.630862 N 92.755623 E	05/08/2026	5	5	10
Total Participants					243 (72.32%)	93 (27.68%)	336

Table 40: Details of Women Focus Group Discussion conducted Under the Project

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Name of the Village	Coordinates	Date of Consultation	Participants
1	Shivsagar	Saraguri	27.006501 N 94.473498 E	29/07/2025	13
2	Goalpara	Supari vita	26.06626415 N 90.23905823 E	02/08/2025	13
3	Dhubri	Balatari	25.97357793 N 90.11137005 E	03/07/2025	9
4	Barpeta	Malipara	26.25671476 N 91.19110275 E	23/07/2025	10
5	Barpeta	Bahari	26.245382 N 91.145724 E	30/07/2025	20
6	Morigaon	Sandooba Toop	26.37377377 N 92.207754823 E	27/07/2025	11
7	Dhemaji	Bogoriguri	27.669076 N 95.023352 E	27/07/2025	13
8	Dhemaji	Burisuti Kachari	27.686482 N 95.043548 E	25/07/2025	7
9	Sonitpur	DA-Parbatia	26.630862 N 92.755623 E	05/08/2026	7
10	Jorhat	Dhekarbara	26.06626415 N 90.23905823 E	31/07/2025	10
11	Golaghat	Roumara	26.06626415 N 90.23905823 E	31/07/2025	11
Total Participants					124




E. Consultation During ADB Fact Finding Mission



123. As a part of FFM, the ADB social safeguard officers and ADB appointed consultant jointly with FREMAA and their consultants, visited subproject sites in Dhemaji, Shivsagar, Jorhat and Morigaon Districts. During the visit, the team participated in consultation meetings at four places

attended by affected communities. Following issues and points are discussed during the consultation meetings and the details of consultation meetings are presented in the **Table 41**.

- Communities are fully aware about the project proposal
- The assets inventory, joint measurement survey and valuation of assets conducted in the villages
- Public consultations had been completed during SIA
- All affected persons were included in the official compensation/impact list
- During the SIA and consultation meetings, types of compensation and assistance are discussed
- The DPs are found very much concerned about their safety and security of assets and desire for quick action from Government in implementing project before next monsoon

Table 41: Details of Consultation During FFM

District	Date	Location	Participants	Photographs of Consultation Meetings
Dhemaji	03/09/2025	Majgaon (Luhijan)	17	
	03/09/2025	Bogoriguri	14	
	03/09/2025	Muktiar	10	

District	Date	Location	Participants	Photographs of Consultation Meetings
Jorhat	04/09/2025	Gohingaon	15	
Morigaon	05/09/2025	Baralimari	21	

F. Findings of Focused Group Discussions

124. During the resettlement survey, FGDs were conducted in affected villages along the project alignment. The participants in these FGDs are not limited to the place of meeting or DPs only but also included the other interested parties from the affected villages and beneficiaries under the Project. The survey team pre informed the village head and invited all villagers to attend the FGD on a pre-fixed date and interested persons have attended the meeting accordingly.

125. In addition to individual consultations held with all displaced households during the census survey, a total of 21 general Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted across various project locations. These FGDs engaged a total of 336 participants, comprising 243 males (72.32%) and 93 females (27.68%), who were consulted during the sessions. However, separate 11 numbers of gender-oriented FGDs were also conducted at different locations of the project sites comprising 124 participants. Some of the major issues that were discussed and feedback received from the villagers during the consultations and measures taken are summarized in **Table 42**. The details of consultation including the list of participants and consultation photographs are presented in the **Appendix- 3** and **Appendix-4**.

Table 42: Summary findings of Consultation

Issue	Discussion/Suggestion	Measures Taken
Loss of Structure/ Loss of Land	The level of vulnerability remains very high in the flood or erosion prone communities and during the consultation with various community groups many hindrances were highlighted that come along with loss of land or shelter and	The main component of this project is to stop the erosion on the stretch of the river flowing by the villages hence it will prevent loss of land in near future

Issue	Discussion/Suggestion	Measures Taken
	relocation. The inhabitants of these villages are dependent on agriculture as a source of livelihood. But relocation always comes with its own disadvantages affecting income, lifestyle, culture etc. People have already lost huge land and shelter due to erosion and flood over the years Highlighting the response on recent major soil erosion in 2020-22 in which they have lost most of their land and shelter.	
Environmental impact	While discussing the environmental impact, people have spoken about both positive and negative impact. In terms of negative impact people are anticipating that the construction might leave an impact on the environment as it might create noise and air pollution in that area during the construction period	An environmental assessment has already been completed in the project areas which will have an action plan to minimize the impact on environment as per the mandates of project
Gender responsive and Inclusiveness	Women are taking up activities through Self Help Group model where they have access to credit. It eventually supports the holistic development of the family. Women's participation in village/panchayat level politics is also reflected in the responses from the communities.	The project also gives space for an inclusive approach across all the activities. The project is given the GEN standard which reflects the level of gender responsive mechanisms and considering other disadvantaged groups
Educational status and importance of education	There is lack of awareness in the community on importance of education and during the consultation respondents stated the poor condition of educational activities in the area which is eventually also leading to high rate of drop out among children. According to them, despite knowing the benefits of education they are unable to access the services due to poverty engagement of children in other activities	Through various awareness generating programs and people participating in various community programs will get informed and understand the importance of education
Discrimination on the basis of gender	According to the women, they are not entitled to equal pay like man, and the reason stated by the respondent is women do not give much time to work compared to the opposite gender	The project maintains equal standards of pay for any kinds of labour work and it will be implied by the law of land not social norms. And also, it's considered as GEN project thus it adheres to ensure all the gender inclusive criteria across.
Dependency on Water resources	People are dependent on water resources to some extent. These activities might be limited or restricted due to the construction work. Hence, people have lack of confidence on any kind of interventions, as flood periodically impacts their lifestyle and dependency on other external resources	The various assessments – poverty, social and livelihood assessment, economic assessment and environmental assessment have been done in lieu of the community people. The community dependency on any kinds of resources will be reflected in this assessment and hence it gets attention in the action plan as well
Rate of compensation	While discussing the impact people have spoken about both positive and negative impact. In terms of negative impact, people	The rate of compensation will be decided as per market value of land according to the RFCTLARR Act,

Issue	Discussion/Suggestion	Measures Taken
	have expressed their concern about the rate of compensation they are supposed to get due to loss of their assets and livelihood. They also seemed to be curious to know regarding the process and eligibility for getting compensation.at replacement cost.	2013.Calculation for giving compensation will be done based on the replacement cost of structures without the depreciation cost. As per Assam Land Purchase Policy, the DPs will get 25% additional compensation against assistance.
Compensation preference	Willingness for self-relocation but also people prefer compensation and assistance in kind as they don't own any land and currently situated in Tea estate property	The affected people will be given cash compensation for loss of their assets. The RIPP implementation support agency will assist the DPs during the process. Whereas some of the respondents also want to receive the compensation and assistance in kind
Communication and accountability	People prefer to have direct communication with the reliable sources associated with the project. They are also very positive about participating in all the construction activities. Direct and reliable communication between affected people and departments would help to ease communication and avoid any muddle.	Public consultation will continue throughout the project cycle. Implementing agency will assist people in participation at various stages of implementation. The three-tier GRM services would support the communication process while establishing GRC and easy access to the offices with proper display of noticeboard with all the information. Any grievances received will be addressed through proper channel. There will be transparent communication from all the relevant departments with display noticeboards, distribution of leaflets and continued discussion with the community groups including the disadvantaged ones.
Skill based livelihood pattern	The communities are lacking in terms of traditional skill set and above that no NGOs or institutions are able to reach out to them in order to provide vocational training	The livelihood package design includes enhancing the traditional skill set of the community and also introducing new skills with linkage to the various skill development training centers and service providers in and around the affected communities.

G. Consultation with Officials and Other Stakeholders

126. Other stakeholders in the project such as Executing Agency especially the officials in FREMAA, WRD staff and the concerned district administration and the revenue officials were also consulted on various issues especially related to land acquisition, involuntary resettlement and the mitigation measures. The stakeholders detail of some of such consultations are summarized in the

127. **Table 43.**

Table 43: Details of Officials Consultation

SI No	Date	District	Stakeholders interacted with	Contact Number
1	03/07/2025	Sibsagar	1.Dinesh Buragohain (EE)	9435057715
			2. Partha Pratim Khanikar, (ADC-Land and Revenue)	9476692150
			3. Nakib Sayeed Baruah (CO)	9365717188
2	03/07/2025	Jorhat	1. Khuman Kalita (EE)	9707111016
			2. Mogen Narah, (ADC)	7002468915
			3. Sajib Das (CO, West Jorhat Circle Office)	9706106871
3	02/07/2025	Golaghat	1. Rajesh Baruah (EE)	9435746920
			2. Ramesh Kalita (AEE)	9435113502
			3.Sujata Gogoi, ACS (ADC)	9401241267
			4. Manisha Kalita (CO, Dergaon, Circle office)	8638919851
			5. Debahuti Deka (CO, Bokakhat Circle office)	9958459257
4	05/07/2025	Biswanath	1. Pranjit Borah (EE)	9864017649
			2.Pabitra Borah (AEE Gohpur Sub division)	9706371016
			3.Ashim Borgohain, (ADC)	7637815131
			4. Madhurjya Parasar (CO, Biswanath Circle office)	7002824168
			5. Namita Bora (CO, Helem Circle office)	9854417817
5	04/07/2025	North Lakhimpur	1. Alilur Akhtar (EE)	9706513119
			2.Biman Saikia (AEE, Narayanpur Sub division)	8638746292
			3. Tinku Moni Bora (ADC)	9854390820
			4. Popi Phukon (CO, Narayanpur, Circle office)	9706513119
6	04/07/2025	Dhemaji	1.J Roy (EE)	6901758463
			2.Monu ikr Boruah (CO, Jonai Circle office)	8011770947
7	08/07/2025	Morigaon	1.Luchan Choudhary (EE)	9435065021
			2.Priyanka Bania (CO, Bhuragaon, Circle office)	8471891887

SI No	Date	District	Stakeholders interacted with	Contact Number
8	11/07/2025	Sonitpur	1. K. Barman (EE)	9435057596
			2. K. Baruah (ADC)	7896103026
			3. Madhurjya Buragohain (CO, Sonitpur Circle office)	8486483757
9	09/07/2025	Goalpara	1. Suleman Ahmed (EE)	8638112322
			2. Pritam Raja Sharma (ADC)	8638268530
10	09/07/2025	Dhubri	1. Fulchan Khan (EE)	9101295967
			2. Santana Bora (ADC)	8133939993
11	07/07/2025	Nagaon	1. Pinku Mazumdar (EE)	9101299865
			2. Shouvik Bhuyan (ADC)	9864312033
			3. Rajnishan Sharma (CO)	8638269146
12	08/07/2025	Barpetra	1. Dayananda Baishnab (EE)	7002067986
			2. Utpal Deori (AEE)	9854949685
			3. Kaustav Kalita (ADC)	6000087412

H. Plan for Further Consultation in the Project

128. The effectiveness of the Resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) program is directly related to the degree of continuing involvement of those affected by the Project. Several additional rounds of consultations with DPs will form part of the further stages of project preparation and implementation. The RIPP implementation support agency will be entrusted with the task of conducting these consultations during resettlement plan implementation, which will involve disclosure on compensation, assistance options, and entitlement package and income restoration measures suggested for the project. The consultation will continue throughout the project implementation period. The following set of activities will be undertaken for effective implementation of the resettlement plan:

- (i) In case of any change in engineering design/planning, the DPs and other stakeholders will be consulted for minimization of resettlement impacts, development of mitigation measures etc.
- (ii) Together with the RIPP implementation support agency, the PIU will conduct information dissemination sessions in the project area and solicit the help of the local community/leaders and encourage the participation of the DP's in RIPP implementation.
- (iii) During the implementation of resettlement plan, RIPP implementation support agency will organize public meetings, and will appraise the communities about the progress in the implementation of project works, including awareness regarding construction schedule.
- (iv) Consultation and focus group discussions will be conducted with the vulnerable groups like women, SC, ST, and OBC's to ensure that the vulnerable groups understand the process and their needs are specifically taken into consideration.

- (v) To ensure reasonable representation of women in the project planning and implementation, they will be specifically prioritized in consultation.

129. A Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan is prepared by PIU and RIPP implementation support agency for the project as per the format below in **Table 44**. This will be updated as per the project schedule.

Table 44: Future Public Consultation and Disclosure Plan

Sl. N.	Subject	Activities	Timeline	Responsible Agencies
Disclosure Plan				
1	Public Notification	Notify eligibility cut-off date for NTH	November 2025	PMU/ RIPP implementation support agency
2	Disclosure of RIPP	Translate RIPP in local language and disclose at PIU Office and Panchayat	December 2025	PMU/ PIU / RIPP implementation support agency
3	Internet disclosure of the RIPP	Publish RIPP on ADB and executing agency website	October 2025	ADB/ RIPP implementation support agency/PIU
4	Distribution of R&R information leaflet	Prepare R&R information leaflet and distribute to DPs	December 2025	PMU/ PIU/ RIPP implementation support agency
5	Disclosure of the final or updated RIPP	Final RIPP disclosed on ADB and executing agency website and to affected households and other stakeholders at PIU and/or Panchayat offices	March 2026	ADB/PMU/PIU
Public Consultation Plan (During Project implementation Stage)				
1	Inclusive and participatory Consultation with DPs	Implementation of safeguards measures as per RIPP	January 2026 onwards	PMU/ PIU / RIPP implementation support agency
2	Community Consultation	Introducing the project entitlement matrix, GRM,	January 2026 onwards	PMU/ PIU / RIPP implementation support agency
3	FGDs/Public meeting with community and specific consultations with the SC, ST, women and other vulnerable groups	Informing the community on the project progress, Construction schedule and measures taken to avoid any inconvenience	January 2026 onwards	ADB/PMU/ PIU / RIPP implementation support agency

Sl. N.	Subject	Activities	Timeline	Responsible Agencies
Disclosure Plan				
3	Monitoring and Reporting	Monitoring and reporting of measures suggested in RIPP	Continuous	PMU/ PIU / RIPP implementation support agency

I. Information Disclosure

130. Initial project information containing project scope, impacts, mitigation measures and broad compensation provision was shared and disclosed at various project locations through consultations carried out during preparation of this RIPP. The initial discussion contained information on (i) overall project objective, scope and benefits. (ii) broad project components, (iii) grievance redressal mechanisms (iv) social impacts such as impact on land, structure, livelihood, crops and trees and mitigation and compensation measures, (v) other associated social mitigation measures, (vi) future actions and (vii) seeking support of the people for project implementation.

131. To ensure transparency in planning and for further active involvement of DPs and other stakeholders, the project information will be disseminated through disclosure of resettlement planning documents. The executing agency will submit the following documents to ADB for disclosure on ADB’s website:

- (i) final resettlement plans endorsed by the executing agency after the census of displaced persons has been completed;
- (ii) where required, new resettlement plans or updated resettlement plans, and/or corrective action plans prepared during project implementation; and resettlement monitoring reports and any.

132. FREMAA with support from RIPP implementing NGO/Agency, PMU and contractor, will continue the disclosure process during project implementation by providing relevant information in a timely manner, in an accessible place, and in a form and language understandable to affected persons and other stakeholders. The draft RIPP will be disclosed on ADB and FREMAA’s website prior to ADB’s management review/prior to negotiation and the Final RIPP (or addendum to it) will also be disclosed in ADB’s website and FREMAA when ready and prior to commencement of any construction works in resettlement impacted areas. The monitoring reports on RIPP implementation to be prepared by FREMAA and submitted to ADB. The external monitoring reports will also be disclosed on ADB’s and FREMAA’s website.

VI. LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

A. Objectives

133. The legal framework and principles adopted for addressing resettlement issues in the project have been guided by the existing legislation and policies of the Government of India (GOI), the Government of Assam and Asian Development Bank. Prior to the preparation of the resettlement plan, a detailed analysis of the existing national and state policies was undertaken and the section below provides details of the various national and state level legislations studied and their applicability for the project. This resettlement plan is prepared based on the review and analysis of all applicable legal and policy frameworks of the country and ADB policy requirements.

B. Applicable Policy and Legal Framework

134. The policy framework and entitlements for the project are based on National Laws: The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act-2013 (RFCTLARRA, 2013) Assam RFCTLARR Rules, 2015, Land Acquisition through Direct Purchase by way of Negotiated Settlement for Public Purpose of all Departments in the State of Assam dated 7th March 2022, The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act 1996, and Rehabilitation Policy for Erosion Affected Families of Assam, 2020 and ADB SPS, 2009.

1. The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013

135. The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 has been effective from January 1, 2014 after receiving the assent of the President of Republic of India. The Act replaced the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

136. The aims and objectives of the Act include: (i) to ensure, in consultation with institutions of local self-government and Councils (Gram Sabhas) established under the Constitution of India, a humane, participative, informed and transparent process for land acquisition for industrialization, development of essential infrastructural facilities and urbanization with the least disturbance to the owners of the land and other affected families; (ii) provide just and fair compensation to the affected families whose land has been acquired or proposed to be acquired or are affected by such acquisition; (iii) make adequate provisions for such affected persons for their rehabilitation and resettlement; (iv) ensure that the cumulative outcome of compulsory acquisition should be that affected persons become partners in development leading to an improvement in their post-acquisition social and economic status and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

137. Section 27 of the Act defines the method by which, market value of the land shall be computed under the proposed law. Schedule I outlines the proposed minimum compensation based on a multiple of market value. Schedule II through VI outlines the resettlement and rehabilitation entitlements to landowners and livelihood losers, which shall be in addition to the minimum compensation per Schedule I. Additional details regarding the Act can be found in **Appendix-5**. The SGoA has already notified the Assam RFCTLARR Rules, 2015 confirming implementation of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013.

2. Land Acquisition Through Direct Purchase by way of Negotiated Settlement for Public Purpose of all Departments in the State of Assam dated 7th March 2022

138. To simplify and fast track the process of land procurement and to provide the land losers an opportunity to negotiate their cost of land, GoA has formulated a policy known as the “Land Acquisition through Direct Purchase by way of Negotiated Settlement for Public Purpose of all Departments in the State of Assam dated 7th March 2022”.

139. The policy will expedite land availability for the project in shorter time and has the provision for pre-informed negotiated settlements with the landowners and land will be possessed by paying agreed price directly to landowners through the District Level Land Purchase Committee (DLLPC) chaired by the District Commissioner of the concerned districts. The land will be purchased through this policy if titleholders give consent for 5 times the market value compensation, otherwise land will be acquired applying the RFCTLARR Act 2013. However, the purchase policy doesn't consider the R&R assistances to be provided under Schedule-II of the RFCTLARR Act-2013 and also not fully in compliance with the multiplier factors mentioned under the principal Act (MoRD notification dated 9th February 2016). Additional details regarding the purchase policy can be found in **Appendix-6**.

3. Rehabilitation Policy for Erosion affected families of Assam, 2020 (No. RGR.785/2014/91 dated 06/01/2021)

140. The Rehabilitation policy for erosion-affected families of Assam, 2021, will address those aggrieved families who are rendered landless, homeless or lost their homestead land or agriculture due to erosion. Additional details regarding the policy can be found in **Appendix 7**. Any landowners identified in this RIPP that are eroded before land purchase will be facilitated to access the benefits of this Act.

4. The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006

141. This law provides for recognition of forest rights to Scheduled Tribes in occupation of the forest land prior to 13.12.2005 and to other traditional forest dwellers who are in occupation of the forest land for at least 3 generations i.e., 75 years, up to maximum of 4 hectares. These rights are heritable but not alienable or transferable.

5. The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996

142. One of the important provisions of this Act states “the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be consulted before making the acquisition of land in the Scheduled Areas for development projects and before re-settling or rehabilitating persons affected by such projects in the Scheduled Areas.

6. ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS), 2009

143. The objectives of ADB's SPS (2009) with regards to involuntary resettlement are: (i) to avoid involuntary resettlement wherever possible; (ii) to minimize involuntary resettlement by exploring project and design alternatives; (iii) to enhance, or at least restore, the livelihoods of all

displaced persons⁸ in real terms relative to pre-project levels; and (iv) to improve the standards of living of the displaced poor and other vulnerable groups.

144. ADB's SPS (2009) covers physical displacement (relocation, loss of residential land, or loss of shelter) and economic displacement (loss of land, assets, access to assets, income sources, or means of livelihoods) as a result of; (i) involuntary acquisition of land, or (ii) involuntary restrictions on land use or on access to legally designated parks and protected areas. It covers displaced persons whether such losses and involuntary restrictions are full or partial, permanent or temporary.

145. The three important elements of ADB's SPS (2009) are: (i) compensation at replacement cost for lost assets, livelihood, and income prior to displacement; (ii) assistance for relocation, including provision of relocation sites with appropriate facilities and services; and (iii) assistance for rehabilitation to enhance, or at least restore, the livelihoods of all displaced persons relative to pre-project levels and to improve the standard of living of displaced poor and other vulnerable groups.

C. Comparison of Government and ADB Policies

146. A significant development in Government statute is the notification of 'The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013', which has significantly decreased the gaps between the Act and ADB's SPS. In particular, the Act would require social impact assessments for projects involving land acquisition. The Act also expands compensation coverage of the principal act by requiring that the value of structures, trees, plants, or standing crops damaged must also be included and the solatium being 100% of all amounts inclusive. The Act furthermore meets ADB requirement of all compensation to be paid prior to project taking possession of any land and provision of R&R support including subsistence grant and transportation cost.

147. The key difference between the Government and ADB's involuntary resettlement safeguards policy is with regards to the cut-off date for determining the eligibility for compensation and R&R assistance to all those who are affected by the project irrespective of the ownership title to the land. As per the provisions of RFCTLARR Act, the cut-off-date for title holders is the date of notification (under Sec 11) and/or the date of signing of agreement under purchase policy of SGoA and for non-titleholders affected by the acquisition of such land; they should have been living/working three years or more prior to the acquisition of the land. To bring the RIPP in line with ADB's requirements, in the case of land acquisition, the date of issue of notification will be treated as the cut-off date for title holders, and for non-titleholders such as squatters and encroachers, whom the Act does not recognize, the cut-off date will be the start date of the subproject census survey. In case of all affected non-titleholders, suitable compensation for loss of non-land assets and R&R assistance is proposed in the entitlement matrix of this RIPP. A comparison between Government Statutes and ADB's involuntary resettlement safeguards policy that provides gap-filling measures reflected in the entitlement matrix is presented in **Table 45**.

⁸According to ADB SPS-2009, in the context of involuntary resettlement, displaced persons are those who are physically displaced (relocation, loss of residential land, or loss of shelter) and/or economically displaced (loss of land, assets, access to assets, income sources, or means of livelihoods) as a result of (i) involuntary acquisition of land, or (ii) involuntary restrictions on land use or on access to legally designated parks and protected areas.

Table 45: Comparison of Government and ADB Policy

	Aspect	ADB Safeguard Requirement	Indian Legal and Policy Requirement	Land Purchase Policy of Assam	Measures to Bridge the GAP
1	Screen the project (IR-1) (IP-1)	Screen the project to identify past, present, and future involuntary resettlement impacts and risks. Conduct survey and/or census of displaced persons, including a gender analysis, specifically related to resettlement	4 (I) it is obligatory for the appropriate Government to acquire land for a public purpose to carry out a Social Impact Assessment study in consultation with concern Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, at village level or ward level in the affected area. The Social Impact Assessment study report shall be made available to the public in the manner prescribed under section 6.	Screening of minimum land requirement	Screening of all sub-projects in line with the IR checklist of ADB, towards enabling identification of the potential resettlement impacts and associated risks.
2	Consultation with stake holders and establish grievance redress mechanism Meaningful consultation (IR- 2) (IP- 3)	Carryout consultations with displaced persons, host communities and concerned NGOs. Inform all displaced persons of their entitlements and resettlement options	Whenever a Social Impact Assessment is required to be prepared under section 4, the appropriate Government shall ensure that a public hearing is held at the affected area, after giving adequate publicity about the date, time and venue for the public hearing, to ascertain the views of the affected families to be recorded and included in the Social Impact Assessment Report. The Land Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority shall be established in each State by the concerned State Government to hear disputes arising out of projects where land acquisition has been initiated by the State Government or its agencies.	Consultation with DPs during negotiation only	No gap between ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and FCTLARR. The project will ensure meaningful consultation throughout project planning and implementation as per the requirement of ADB SPS. Partial gap between SPS and RFCTLARR, 2013 There is a difference between public hearing and meaningful consultation. public hearing is one-off event while meaningful consultation is an ongoing process

	Aspect	ADB Safeguard Requirement	Indian Legal and Policy Requirement	Land Purchase Policy of Assam	Measures to Bridge the GAP
					with special provisions for the vulnerable peoples who can easily miss out in public hearings. The SPS requirement of meaningful consultation will be followed for the AF.
3.	Improve, or at least restore, the livelihoods of all displaced, and payment at replacement cost (RP-3, 5) (IP-5)	Improve or restore the livelihoods of all displaced persons through: (i) land-based resettlement strategies; (ii) prompt replacement of assets with access to assets of equal or higher value, (iii) prompt compensation at full replacement cost for assets that cannot be restored, and (iv) additional revenues and services through benefit sharing schemes where possible.	The Collector, having determined the market value of the land to be acquired shall calculate the total amount of compensation to be paid to the land owner (whose land has been acquired) by including all assets attached to the land. Livelihood losers are eligible for various rehabilitation grants.	25% additional cost of market value added in lieu of R&R measures	For titleholders, there is no gap with the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). Assets to be compensated at replacement cost without depreciation and other Livelihood assistance and income restoration measures will be included. Gap exists for non-titleholders as the above does not apply to such occupants of Government land. Entitlement Matrix outlines compensation for lost non-land assets and assistance for livelihood loss
4.	Assistance for displaced persons	Provide physically and economically displaced persons with needed assistance	Schedule I, provides market value of the land and value of the assets attached to land. Schedule II provides R&R packages for land owners and for livelihood losers	R&R package provided under Schedule II of RFCTLARR	No gap between for titleholders under RFCTLARR; however, gap exists for nontitle holders

	Aspect	ADB Safeguard Requirement	Indian Legal and Policy Requirement	Land Purchase Policy of Assam	Measures to Bridge the GAP
			including landless and special provisions for Scheduled Tribes.	not followed in valuation	occupying Government land. No R&R assistance under Assam policy Entitlement Matrix outlines compensation and assistance for titled and non-titled DPs.
5.	Improve the standard of living of displaced vulnerable groups	Improve the standards of living of the displaced poor and other vulnerable groups, including women, to at least national minimum standards	RFCTLARR only provide special provisions for scheduled tribe and scheduled caste in the scheduled area.	None	Provisions outlined in ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) will be followed for the project
6.	Negotiated Settlement (RP 6) (IP-5)	Develop procedures in a transparent, consistent, and equitable manner if land acquisition is through negotiated settlement to ensure that those people who enter into negotiated settlements will maintain the same or better income and livelihood status	RFCTLARR only applies in case of land purchased through negotiation for PPP projects and for Private Companies. Section: 2. (2), and 46.	Yes (under step 11 and 12 negotiated price is determined)	Provisions outlined in ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) will be followed for the project. Negotiated settlement as in SPS is not applicable in the AF and use of eminent domain will be used
7.	Compensation For non-title holders	Ensure that displaced persons without titles to land or any recognizable legal rights to land are eligible for resettlement assistance and compensation for loss of non-land assets.	Partially covered. Non-titleholders on acquired land area is only included but not clear about non-titleholders in existing govt. land	None	Provisions outlined in ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) will be followed for the project.
8.	Requirement of resettlement plan (IR-8), IPP (IP-6)	Prepare a resettlement plan / indigenous peoples plan elaborating on displaced persons'	Preparation of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme including timeline for	None	No gap between ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and RFCTLARR.

	Aspect	ADB Safeguard Requirement	Indian Legal and Policy Requirement	Land Purchase Policy of Assam	Measures to Bridge the GAP
		entitlements, the income and livelihood restoration strategy, institutional arrangements, monitoring and reporting framework, budget, and time-bound implementation schedule.	implementation. <i>Section: 16. (1) and (2).</i> Separate development plans to be prepared. <i>Section 41</i>		Resettlement plan will be prepared for project with impact.
9	Recognition of customary rights (IP-8)	Prepare an action plan for legal recognition of customary rights (IP-8)	Non-titleholders on acquired land area is only included but not clear about non-titleholders in existing govt. land	None	ADB SPS provisions will be followed
10	Ascertain broad community Support (IP - 4)	The project needs to ascertain broad community support from the community	41 (3) In case of acquisition or alienation of any land in the scheduled areas, the prior consent of the concerned Gram Sabha or the Panchayats or the autonomous district councils, at the appropriate level in scheduled areas under the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution, as the case may be, shall be obtained, in all cases of land acquisition in such areas, including acquisition in case of urgency, before issue of a notification under this Act, or any other Central Act or a State Act for the time being in force: Provided that the consent of the Panchayats or the autonomous districts Councils shall be obtained in cases where the Gram Sabha does not exist or has not been constituted.	No provisions	Partially complied. ADB SPS will prevail in case of applicability
11	Avoid restricted access to natural resources &	To avoid restricted access to and maximum extent possible physical displacement from	Special provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. – (1) As far as possible, no acquisition of land shall be made in the scheduled		No gap between SPS and RFCTLARR, 2013.

	Aspect	ADB Safeguard Requirement	Indian Legal and Policy Requirement	Land Purchase Policy of Assam	Measures to Bridge the GAP
	protected areas (IP-5)	protected areas and natural resources	areas and also under Forest Act 2006.		
12	Public disclosure (IP-7) (IR-9)	Disclose a draft resettlement plan, including documentation of the consultation process in a timely manner, before project appraisal, in an accessible place and a form and language(s) understandable to displaced persons and other stakeholders. Disclose the final resettlement plan and its updates to displaced persons and other stakeholders	Under clause 18, the Commissioner shall cause the approved Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme to be made available in the local language to the <i>Panchayat</i> , Municipality or Municipal Corporation. As the case may be, the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the <i>Tehsil</i> , and shall be published in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed and uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government.	None	In addition to the publishing of the approved resettlement plan, the RIPP includes provision for disclosure of the various documents pertaining to resettlement plan implementation.
13.	Cost of resettlement	Include the full costs of measures proposed in the resettlement plan and indigenous peoples plan as part of project's costs and benefits. For a project with significant involuntary resettlement impacts and / or indigenous peoples plan, consider implementing the involuntary resettlement component of the project as a stand-alone operation.	16. (l) Upon the publication of the preliminary notification under sub-section (l) of section 11 by the Collector, the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement shall conduct a survey and undertake a census of the affected families, in such manner and within such time as may be Prescribed, which shall include: (a) particulars of lands and immovable properties being acquired of each affected family; (b) livelihoods lost in respect of land losers and landless whose livelihoods are primarily dependent on the lands being acquired; (c) a list of public utilities and Government buildings which are affected or	Only negotiated price of land and non-land assets	No gap between ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and RFCTLARR. The cost of resettlement will be covered by the executing agency.

	Aspect	ADB Safeguard Requirement	Indian Legal and Policy Requirement	Land Purchase Policy of Assam	Measures to Bridge the GAP
			likely to be affected, where resettlement of affected families is involved; (d) details of the amenities and infrastructural facilities which are affected or likely to be affected, where resettlement of affected families is involved; and (e) details of any common property resources being acquired'		
14.	Payment of compensation before taking over possession (IR-11)	Pay compensation and provide other resettlement entitlements before physical or economic displacement. Implement the resettlement plan under close supervision throughout project implementation.	38 (I) The Collector shall take possession of land after ensuring that full payment of compensation as well as rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements are paid or tendered to the entitled persons within a period of three months for the compensation and a period of six months for the monetary part of rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements listed in the Second Schedule commencing from the date of the award made under section 30.	Yes	No gap between ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and RFCTLARR.
15.	Monitoring (IP-9) (IR 12)	Monitor and assess resettlement outcomes, their impact on the standards of living of displaced persons, and whether the objectives of the resettlement plan have been achieved by taking into account the baseline conditions and the results of resettlement monitoring. Disclose monitoring reports.	48 (I) The Central Government may, whenever necessary for national or inter-State projects, constitute a National Monitoring Committee for reviewing and monitoring the implementation of rehabilitation and resettlement schemes or plans under this Act.	None	For project, monitoring mechanism and frequency will follow ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) based on categorization.

D. Involuntary Resettlement Safeguard Principles for the Project

148. Based on the above analysis of Government provisions and ADB policy, the following resettlement principles are adopted for this project:

- (i) Screen the project early on to identify past, present, and future involuntary resettlement impacts and risks. Determine the scope of resettlement planning through a survey and/or census of displaced persons, including a gender analysis, specifically related to resettlement impacts and risks. Measures to avoid and minimize involuntary resettlement impacts include the following: (a) explore alternative alignments or locations which are less impacting, (b) ensure the appropriate technology is used to reduce land requirements, and (c) modify the designs, cross sections, and geometrics of components to minimize the ROW and ensure involuntary resettlement is avoided or minimized.
- (ii) Carry out meaningful consultations with displaced persons, host communities, and concerned non-government organizations (NGOs). Inform all displaced persons of their entitlements and resettlement options. Ensure their participation in planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of resettlement programs. Pay particular attention to the needs of vulnerable groups, especially those below the poverty line, the landless, the elderly, women and children, and indigenous peoples, and those without legal title to land, and ensure their participation in consultations. Establish a grievance redress mechanism to receive and facilitate resolution of the concerns of displaced persons. Support the social and cultural institutions of displaced persons and their host population. Where involuntary resettlement impacts and risks are highly complex and sensitive, compensation and resettlement decisions should be preceded by a social preparation phase.
- (iii) Improve, or at least restore, the livelihoods of all displaced persons through: (i) land-based resettlement strategies when affected livelihoods are land based where possible or cash compensation at replacement cost for land when the loss of land does not undermine livelihoods, (ii) prompt replacement of assets with access to assets of equal or higher value, (iii) prompt compensation at full replacement cost for assets that cannot be restored, and (iv) additional revenues and services through benefit sharing schemes where possible.
- (iv) Provide physically and economically displaced persons with needed assistance, including the following: (a) if there is relocation, secured tenure to relocation land, better housing at resettlement sites with comparable access to employment and production opportunities, integration of resettled persons economically and socially into their host communities, and extension of project benefits to host communities; (b) transitional support and development assistance, such as land development, credit facilities, training, or employment opportunities; and (iii) civic infrastructure and community services, as required.
- (v) Improve the standards of living of the displaced poor and other vulnerable groups, including women, to at least national minimum standards. In rural areas provide them with legal and affordable access to land and resources, and in urban areas provide them with appropriate income sources and legal and affordable access to adequate housing.
- (vi) Develop procedures in a transparent, consistent, and equitable manner if land acquisition is through negotiated settlement⁹ to ensure that those people who enter into negotiated settlements will maintain the same or better income and livelihood status.

⁹ ADB SPS 2009 (Safeguards Requirements 2) does not apply to negotiated settlements. The policy encourages acquisition of land and other assets through a negotiated settlement wherever possible, based on meaningful consultation with affected persons, including those without title to assets. A negotiated settlement will offer adequate

- (vii) Ensure that displaced persons without titles to land or any recognizable legal rights to land are eligible for all compensation, relocation and rehabilitation measures, except land.
- (viii) Prepare a resettlement plan elaborating on the entitlements of displaced persons, the income and livelihood restoration strategy, institutional arrangements, monitoring and reporting framework, budget, and time-bound implementation schedule. This resettlement plan will be approved by ADB prior to contract award.
- (ix) Disclose a draft resettlement plan, including documentation of the consultation process in a timely manner, before project appraisal, in an accessible place and a form and language(s) understandable to displaced persons and other stakeholders. Disclose the final resettlement plan and its updates to displaced persons and other stakeholders.
- (x) Conceive and execute involuntary resettlement as part of a development project or program. Include the full costs of resettlement in the presentation of project's costs and benefits. For a project with significant involuntary resettlement impacts, consider implementing the involuntary resettlement component of the project as a stand-alone operation.
- (xi) Pay compensation and provide other resettlement entitlements before physical or economic displacement. Implement the resettlement plan under close supervision throughout project implementation.
- (xii) Monitor and assess resettlement outcomes, their impacts on the standard of living of displaced persons, and whether the objectives of the resettlement plan have been achieved by taking into account the baseline conditions and the results of resettlement monitoring. Disclose monitoring reports.
- (xiii) Permanent land acquisition under the project shall be executed as per the "Land Acquisition Through Direct Purchase by way of Negotiated Settlement for Public Purpose of all Departments in the State of Assam dated 7th March 2022", which will provide 25% higher on the compensation rate determined through the RFCTLARR Act – 2013.
- (xiv) In case of land for which negotiation could not be achieved and/or processed for direct purchase due to ownership dispute and legal issues, the same will be acquired through the RFCTLARR Act. Compensation and assistance will be provided as per the provision of the Act.
- (xv) For the land already eroded and submerged in the river water prior to the project and/or before signing of land agreement between the landowner and the Project authority, the affected landowner may claim for the eligible compensation and assistance as per the 'Rehabilitation Policy for Erosion Affected Families of Assam, 2020' (No. RGR.785/2014/91 dated 06/01/2021). Any such affected land identified and recorded through the project census survey and eroded before the execution of agreement would be dealt with the erosion policy and the IA would assist the DPs in availing eligible benefits under the policy.
- (xvi) The land boundary recognized and recorded by the Revenue Department during the land identification survey will be considered as the erosion line and accordingly the ownership of land will be established under the Project.

E. Indigenous Peoples Safeguards Principles:

and fair price for land and/or other assets. Also, an independent external party will be engaged to document the negotiation and settlement processes. In cases where the failure of negotiations would result in expropriation through eminent domain or the buyer could acquire the property regardless of its owner's decision to sell it or not, will trigger ADB's involuntary resettlement policy. The Safeguard Requirements 2 will apply in such cases, including preparing a resettlement plan.

- (i) Screen early on to determine (i) whether Indigenous Peoples are present in, or have collective attachment to, the project area; and (ii) whether project impacts on Indigenous Peoples are likely.
- (ii) Undertake a culturally appropriate and gender-sensitive social impact assessment or use similar methods to assess potential project impacts, both positive and adverse, on Indigenous Peoples. Give full consideration to options the affected Indigenous Peoples prefer in relation to the provision of project benefits and the design of mitigation measures. Identify social and economic benefits for affected Indigenous Peoples that are culturally appropriate and gender and inter-generationally inclusive and develop measures to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate adverse impacts on Indigenous Peoples.
- (iii) Undertake meaningful consultations with affected Indigenous Peoples communities and concerned Indigenous Peoples organizations to solicit their participation (i) in designing, implementing, and monitoring measures to avoid adverse impacts or, when avoidance is not possible, to minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects; and (ii) in tailoring project benefits for affected Indigenous Peoples communities in a culturally appropriate manner. To enhance Indigenous Peoples' active participation, projects affecting them will provide for culturally appropriate and gender inclusive capacity development. Establish a culturally appropriate and gender inclusive grievance mechanism to receive and facilitate resolution of the Indigenous Peoples' concerns.
- (iv) Ascertain the consent of affected Indigenous Peoples communities to the following project activities: (i) commercial development of the cultural resources and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples; (ii) physical displacement from traditional or customary lands; and (iii) commercial development of natural resources within customary lands under use that would impact the livelihoods or the cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual uses that define the identity and community of Indigenous Peoples. For the purposes of policy application, the consent of affected Indigenous Peoples communities refers to a collective expression by the affected Indigenous Peoples communities, through individuals and/or their recognized representatives, of broad community support for such project activities. Broad community support may exist even if some individuals or groups object to the project activities.
- (v) Avoid, to the maximum extent possible, any restricted access to and physical displacement from protected areas and natural resources. Where avoidance is not possible, ensure that the affected Indigenous Peoples communities participate in the design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of management arrangements for such areas and natural resources and that their benefits are equitably shared.
- (vi) Prepare an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) that is based on the social impact assessment with the assistance of qualified and experienced experts and that draw on indigenous knowledge and participation by the affected Indigenous Peoples communities. The IPP includes a framework for continued consultation with the affected Indigenous Peoples communities during project implementation; specifies measures to ensure that Indigenous Peoples receive culturally appropriate benefits; identifies measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for any adverse project impacts; and includes culturally appropriate grievance procedures, monitoring and evaluation arrangements, and a budget and time-bound actions for implementing the planned measures.
- (vii) Disclose a draft IPP, including documentation of the consultation process and the results of the social impact assessment in a timely manner, before project appraisal, in an accessible place and in a form and language(s) understandable to

affected Indigenous Peoples communities and other stakeholders. The final IPP and its updates will also be disclosed to the affected Indigenous Peoples communities and other stakeholders.

- (viii) Prepare an action plan for legal recognition of customary rights to lands and territories or ancestral domains when the project involves (i) activities that are contingent on establishing legally recognized rights to lands and territories that Indigenous Peoples have traditionally owned or customarily used or occupied, or (ii) involuntary acquisition of such lands.
- (ix) Monitor implementation of the IPP using qualified and experienced experts; adopt a participatory monitoring approach, wherever possible; and assess whether the IPP's objective and desired outcome have been achieved, taking into account the baseline conditions and the results of IPP monitoring. Disclose monitoring reports

F. Valuation of Assets as per RFCTLARR Act-2013

149. Land surveys for determining the payment of compensation will be conducted by the competent authority for land acquisition, i.e. the District Commissioner on the basis of updated official records and ground facts. The land records containing information like legal title, and classification of land will be updated expeditiously to ensure adequate cost compensation and allotment of land to the entitled displaced persons. Records as they are on the cut-off date will be taken into consideration while determining the current use of land. The economically unviable residual land remaining after the land acquisition will be acquired as per the provisions of RFCT in LARR Act, 2013. The owner of such land/property if desired so, will have the right to seek acquisition of his entire contiguous holding/ property provided the residual land if is economically unviable. However, the land acquisition authority will decide on the viability and acquisition of such land under section 94 (1-4) of RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and his decision will be termed as final.

150. The methodology for verifying the replacement cost for each type of loss will be calculated based on the provision made in the RFCTLARR Act -2013, which takes account of market value, additional solatium, applicable interest and therefore, equivalent to the replacement cost defined in the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009).

151. **Valuation of Land:** The District Collector/District Commissioner shall determine the market value of the land with assessment of (a) the market value, if any, specified in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 for the registration of sale deeds or agreements to sell, as the case may be, in the area, where the land is situated; or (b) the average sale price for similar type of land situated in the nearest village or nearest vicinity area; or (c) consented amount of compensation as agreed upon, whichever is higher.

152. Where the market value as per above method cannot be determined for the reason that: (a) the land is situated in such area where the transactions in land are restricted by or under any other law for the time being in force in that area; or (b) the registered sale deeds or agreements to sell for similar land are not available for the immediately preceding three years; or (c) the market value has not been specified under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899; the appropriate authority, the State Government concerned shall specify the floor price or minimum price per unit area of the said land based on the Price calculated in the manner specified in the above section (1) in respect of similar types of land situated in the immediate adjoining areas.

153. The market value calculated as per above method shall be multiplied by a factor of (a) 1 (one) to 2 (two) in rural areas based on the distance of project from Urban Area as notified by the

State Government; and (b) one in urban areas. Solatium amount equivalent to 100% of the market value calculated on the basis of above (1 or 2) x 3.

Hence;

The cost of land in rural areas = X + 100% of X,

The cost of land in urban areas = X + 100% of X

Where X = Market Value as determined above x 1 to 2.

154. **Valuation of Structure:** The cost of buildings will be estimated based on updated Schedule of Rates (SoR) as on date without depreciation. Solatium will be added to the estimated market value of the structure for the titleholders as specified under the provision of RFCT in LARR Act -2013. The valuation of assets will be again verified prior to payment of compensation in case of delay in payment and current SoR will be followed.

155. Even after payment of compensation, DPs will be allowed to take away the materials salvaged from their dismantled houses and shops and no charges will be levied upon them for the same. In case of any structures not removed by the DPs in stipulated 60 days period, a notice to that effect will be issued intimating that DPs can take away the materials so salvaged within 48 hours of their demolition; otherwise, the same will be disposed by the project authority without giving any further notice.

156. **Valuation of Trees and Crops:** Compensation for trees and crops will be based on their full replacement cost. The District Collector/District Commissioner for the purpose of determining the market value of trees and plants attached to the land acquired, will use the services of experienced persons/agencies in the field of agriculture, forestry, horticulture, sericulture, or any other field, as may be considered necessary by him.

157. Trees standing on the land owned by the government will be disposed of through open auction by the concerned Revenue Department/ Forest Department. However, compensation for trees on government land owned by non-titleholders will be paid to the owners/occupiers. DPs will be provided with advance notice of three months prior to relocation and all compensation and assistance will be paid to DPs at least 60 days prior to displacement or dispossession of assets.

158. For temporary impact on land and common resources, any land required by the project on a temporary basis will be compensated in consultation with landowners and will be restored to previous or better quality. Implementation issues can be found in the Entitlement Matrix.

G. Valuation of Assets as per Assam Government's Purchase Policy

159. Based on the list of landowners agreed to provide consent under land purchase policy, it will be published inviting objections, within 1 month, regarding interest and ownership of the land etc., if any. District Level Land Purchase Committee (DLLPC) will prepare the valuation of the land and assets, if any. The DLLPC fixes prices as per provisions under Section 26-30 of the RFCTLARR Act-2013 and on multiplying factor as per the latest State Government Gazette Notification dated 23rd August 2023.

- 100% solatium on determined value provided on all assets on land.
- Also, structures are valued as per Schedule of Rates without depreciation.

160. The direct purchase rate is calculated as per provisions of Section 26 to 30 and Schedule I of RFCTLARR Act 2013 with the multiplier of market rate defined in Assam. As per the Assam

land purchase policy, the landowners will get an incentive of additional 25%, inclusive of R&R Benefits, on the compensation will be calculated. A sample land purchase calculation is attached in the figure below.

Hence, the Price of Direct Purchase (P) will be:

$$P = 2.5 \times \{(R \times M \times A) + (B + O)\} + \{0.12 \times Y \times (R \times A)\}$$

Where: R is the base rate of Land

M is the Multiplier

A is the affected area

B is the market value of Buildings

O be cost of all immovable assets & standing crops

Y is the proper or improper fraction of year from date of notification to award of compensation

						Amount
1	a. Market rate of land per unit	R				
	Class of Land = Akh	₹ 1,00,000.00				
		A	Bigha	Katha	Lesa	
	b. Area of land acquired		1	0	0	
	Class of Land = Jalatan					
	b. Area of land acquired					
	c. Market value of land	RA	1	0	0	₹ 1,00,000.00
Deduction of Conversion premium of AP Land if any (Per bigha @ Rs. 450.00)						
Total						₹ 1,00,000.00
2	Multiplication Factor by which the market value is to be multiplied	M				
	M=1 for urban area	1				
3	Upto 10 KM=1.2					
	From 10 to 20 KM=1.4					
	From 20 to 30 KM=1.6					
	From 30 to 40 KM=1.8					
	From 40 KM to above=2	2				
3	Total market value of land (1X2)	RMA				₹ 2,00,000.00
4	a. Value of building	B				
	b. Value of assets	O				
	c. Total value of Zirat	B+O				₹ 0.00
5	Total Compensation of land and Zirat (3+4)	RMA+(B+O)				₹ 2,00,000.00
6	Solatium @ 100% of 5	RMA+(B+O)				₹ 2,00,000.00
7	Additional Compensation @ 12% per annum (Y is the Years from the date of the notification to award of compensation)	0.12*Y*(RA) 04/07/24 to 04/07/25 (395days)				₹ 12,000.00
8	Total Compensation (5+6+7)	2 {RMA+(B+O)}				₹ 4,12,000.00
9	For Direct Purchase, additional 25% incentive to be provided on the total compensation	[2 {RMA+(B+O)}]*25%				₹ 1,03,000.00
Therefore the price of the direct purchase will be = 1.25*{2{RMA+(B+O)}+0.12*Y*RA}						₹ 5,15,000.00
Part-II						
10	Add capitalized Value of Govt. Revenue					
11	Add conversion premium of AP Land					₹ 0.00
Sub Total						₹ 0.00
Part-III						
12	0.5% Cost of contingency charges (as per GoA's Notification No RLA.231013/37 dated 23-10-23)					₹ 2,575.00
Grand Total (Part-I+Part-II+Part-III)						₹ 5,17,575.00

H. Determination of Cost of Assistance as per RFCTLARR Act-2013

161. The project has adopted the unit costs for Rehabilitation and Resettlement assistance as available in RFCTLARR Act, 2013. The amounts given in the Entitlement Matrix are for the financial year 2013-14. Financial assistance and/or allowances to be appropriately indexed to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to ensure real value of assistance from when it was affected in January 2014.

$$\text{Inflation Rate} = 100 \times \frac{\text{CPI June 2025} - \text{CPI January 2014}}{\text{CPI Jan 2014}}$$

$$= 100 \times \frac{194.2 - 139.7}{139.7}$$

=39.01%, say 39%

where, CPI Jan 2014 = 139.7 & CPI June'25 = 194.2 in Assam with Base Year 2012 = 100

162. If payments are made after year 2025, then the CPI of that year, during which payment is made, will be used for calculation of inflation rate. The unit rates will be revised every year prior to March 31. All these unit rates have been updated as of June 25 and are presented in **Table 46**

Table 46: Unit rates revised as of June 2025

No	Entitlement	Unit rates as of January 2014 (in INR)	Revised as of June 2025 (rounded off to nearest INR)
1	Livelihood assistance (Lumpsum)	5,00,000	6,95,000
2	Livelihood assistance (Annuity)	2,000/per month for 12 months x 20 years	2,000/per month for 12 months x 20 years (to be adjusted every year as per CPI index)
3	One-time assistance for loss of Cattle shed/petty shop	25,000	34,750
4	One-time assistance for displaced artisan/small traders/small shops	25,000	34,750
5	Cash in lieu of house, if opted (as per indexed and updated figures at time of payment)		Amounts to be updated as per PMAY guidelines as prevalent at the time of implementation.
	Rural	1.3lakhs	
	Urban	1.5lakhs	
6	Transportation/ Shifting assistance for Displaced	50,000	69,500
7	Subsistence allowance for displaced @INR3000 per month for 1 year	36,000	50,040
8	One-time Resettlement Allowance	50,000	69,500

I. Negotiated Settlement

163. The ADB SPS encourages acquisition of land and other assets through a negotiated settlement wherever possible, based on meaningful consultation¹⁰ with displaced persons, including those without title to assets. A negotiated settlement will offer adequate and fair price for land and/or other assets. Also, in case of negotiated settlement, an independent external

¹⁰A process that (i) begins early in the Project preparation stage and is carried out on an ongoing basis throughout the project cycle; (ii) provides timely disclosure of relevant and adequate information that is understandable and readily accessible to affected people; (iii) is undertaken in an atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion; (iv) is gender inclusive and responsive, and tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups; and (v) enables the incorporation of all relevant views of affected people and other stakeholders into decision making, such as project design, mitigation measures, the sharing of development benefits and opportunities, and implementation issues.

party¹¹ will be engaged by FREMAA to document the negotiation and settlement processes. The principles of this framework with regard to meaningful consultation processes, mechanisms for calculating the replacement costs of land and other assets affected and record-keeping requirements, will be followed while handling Negotiated Settlement. If negotiation fails, FREMAA will acquire land following the national legislation, the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and ADB SPS.

J. Escrow Account

164. When there are co-owners, compensation will be disbursed to legal titleholders. If there are more than one titleholder, the compensation will be distributed as per their share of land and assets. If there are disputes among the co-owners/titleholders, the same will be deposited in the court/ escrow accounts in the project district. The concerned DC will create and notify the interest-bearing escrow account for this purpose. Compensation placed in escrow will be made available to eligible persons in a timely manner as issues are resolved.

165. There are several landowners whose lands are identified for acquisition under the project, but they may remain unavailable and there could be instances where some people may not be available to receive compensation when offered or some may refuse to accept the compensation offered. To deal with these cases, the compensation payment for these cases will be transferred to the escrow account from the DC's account where land compensation is deposited. This is to ensure that compensation is readily available as when the landowners come forward to receive compensation

¹¹An independent external party is a person not involved in the day-to-day implementation of the project and can include, for example, a consultant, a local university professor, local NGO representative, etc.

VII. ENTITLEMENTS, ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS

A. Introduction

167. As per the social assessment and analysis of project impacts, the project will have three types of displaced persons:

- (i) persons with formal legal rights to land lost in its entirety or in part;
- (j) persons who lost the land they occupy in its entirety or in part who have no formal legal rights to such land, but who have claims to such lands that are recognized or recognizable under national laws; and
- (k) persons who lost the land they occupy in its entirety or in part who have neither formal legal rights nor recognized or recognizable claims to such land (will be eligible for compensation and assistance except compensation for land).

168. The involuntary resettlement requirements apply to all three types of displaced persons. The project involves land acquisition and therefore legal titleholders will be affected, the resettlement plan describes provision for all type of DPs and formulated the entitlement matrix.

B. Cut-off Date for Eligibility

169. For titleholders, the date of notification of intended acquisition (Sec 11) as per the provisions of RFCTLARR Act 2013, and/or the date of signing of agreement under purchase policy of SGoA will be treated as the cut-off date, and for non-titleholders the start date of project census survey for the subproject will be the cut-off date. The cut-off date for non-titleholders is 5th July 2025, which was the start date of project census survey under this subproject. There will be adequate notification of cut-off date and measures will be taken to prevent encroachments/squatting after the cut-off date is established. Non-titleholders who settle in the affected areas after the cut-off date will not be eligible for compensation. They, however, will be given sufficient advance notice (up to 60 days) to vacate the premises and dismantle affected structures prior to project implementation.

C. Project Entitlement

170. In accordance with the R&R policy adopted for this Project, all displaced households and persons will be entitled to a combination of compensation packages and resettlement assistance depending on the nature of ownership rights on lost assets and scope of the impacts including socio-economic vulnerability of the displaced persons and measures to support livelihood restoration if livelihood impacts are envisaged. The displaced persons will be entitled to the following six types of compensation and assistance packages:

- (i) Compensation for the loss of land, crops/trees at their replacement cost;
- (ii) Compensation for structures (residential/ commercial) and other immovable assets at their replacement cost;
- (iii) Assistance in lieu of the loss of business/wage income and income restoration assistance;
- (iv) Alternate housing or cash in lieu of house to physically displaced households not having any house site;
- (v) Assistance for shifting and provision for the relocation site (if required), and
- (vi) Rebuilding and/or restoration of common property resources/facilities.

171. **Loss of land** will be compensated at replacement cost plus refund of transaction cost (land registration cost, stamp duties etc.) incurred for purchase of replacement land within the time frame mentioned in the entitlement matrix. If the residual plot(s) becomes not viable three options are to be given to DP, subject to her/his acceptance, which are: (i) The DP remains on the plot, and the compensation and assistance paid to the tune of required amount of land to be acquired, (ii) Compensation and assistance are to be provided for the entire plot including residual part, if the owner of such land wishes that his residual plot should also be acquired by the implementing agency, the implementing agency will acquire the residual plot and pay the compensation for it. The viability of such plot would be certified by concerned District Commissioner (DC) and concerned building department of the PWD. (iii) If the DP is from vulnerable group, compensation for the entire land by means of land for land will be provided if DP wishes so, provided that land of equal productive value is available. All fees, stamp duties, taxes and other charges, as applicable under the relevant laws, incurred in the relocation and rehabilitation process, are to be borne by the executing agency/implementing agency. Each titled holder family losing land will be entitled for following assistances.

- (i) One time resettlement allowance of Rs. 50,000.
- (ii) One time assistance option from: (i) Where jobs are created through the project, employment for at least one member of the affected family with suitable training and skill development in the required field; or (ii) one-time payment of Rs. 500,000.
- (iii) Subsistence allowance of Rs 36,000.
- (iv) Refund of stamp duty/registration charge as applicable.

172. **Loss of Structures** will be compensated at replacement value with other assistance to both titleholders and non-titleholders. The details of entitlement will be as:

- (i) Compensation for structure at the replacement cost to be calculated as per latest prevailing basic schedules of rates (BSR) without depreciation.
- (ii) Right to salvage materials from structure and other assets with no deductions from replacement value.
- (iii) One-time Resettlement allowance of Rs. 50,000.
- (iv) One-time financial assistance of Rs. 25,000 to the families losing cattle sheds for reconstruction.
- (v) One-time financial assistance of Rs. 25,000 to the families of an artisan or self-employed
- (vi) One time shifting assistance of Rs. 50,000 towards transport costs etc.
- (vii) Landless non-titleholders DPs will be provided with alternate land for resettlement subject to availability of Government land in the Project area.

173. **Loss of livelihood due to loss of primary source of income** will be compensated through rehabilitation assistances. These will be in addition to the R&R package provided as applicable under the project. In case of Direct purchase Policy THs will not be eligible for separate R&R assistance. As Direct purchase policy has the provision to provide additional 25% financial assistance with the total LA compensation in lieu of R&R benefits. In case of negotiations fails with any THs, then land will be acquired as per RFCTLARR Act 2013 where THs will be eligible for R&R benefits. All the THs will receive additional 25% compensation in lieu of R&R benefits. In case, if negotiation fails THs will get R&R benefits separately where rates will be revised as per consumer price index. Details of entitlements for the above categories are described below:

- (i) One-time financial assistance of minimum Rs. 25,000 for skill up-gradation training to DPs opted for (one member of the affected family) income restoration.
- (ii) Preference in employment under the project during construction and implementation.
- (iii) Monthly Subsistence allowance of Rs. 3,000 for one year (total Rs. 36,000) from the date of award.

174. **Loss trees and crops** will be compensated by cash compensation. The entitlements to the DPs losing trees will be compensated for trees based on timber value at market price, and compensation for perennial crops and fruit trees at annual net product market value multiplied by remaining productive years; to be determined in consultation with the Forest Department for timber trees and the Horticulture Department for other trees/crops.

175. **Additional assistance to vulnerable households** (Vulnerable households includes BPL, SC, ST, Women Headed Households, disabled and elderly, landless and non-titleholders DPs) will be paid with special assistance as detailed below. The following provision in addition to the compensation for lost assets will ensure that the vulnerable people affected under the Project will be able to improve their standard of living or attain at least national minimal level.

- (i) One-time lump sum assistance of Rs. 50,000 to vulnerable households. This will be paid above and over the other.
- (ii) Receive preference in income restoration training program under the project.
- (iii) Preference in employment under the project during construction and implementation according to their acquired skills.
- (iv) Support in access to basic utilities and public services.

176. **Loss of community infrastructure/common property resources** will be compensated by cash compensation at replacement cost to the community or entity (registered trust, society or village committee as appropriate). CPR clearing and reconstruction including any ceremonial/religious expenses to relocate such structures are considered during the valuation/zirat survey.

177. **Temporary Impacts** on agricultural land due to plant site for contractor etc will be eligible for cash compensation for loss of income potential including:

- (i) any land required by the project on a temporary basis will be compensated in consultation with the landholders;
- (ii) rent at market value for the period of occupation;
- (iii) compensation for assets at replacement cost;
- (iv) restoration of land to previous or better quality;
- (v) location of construction camps will be fixed by contractors in consultation with government and local community;
- (vi) 60 days advance notice regarding construction activities, including duration and type of temporary loss of livelihood;
- (vii) cash assistance based on the minimum wage/average earnings per month for the loss of income/livelihood for the period of disruption, and contractor's actions to ensure there is no income/access loss consistent with the EMP; and
- (viii) assistance to mobile vendors/hawkers to temporarily shift for continued economic activity.

178. **Any unanticipated impacts** due to the project will be documented during the implementation phase and mitigated based on provision made in the Entitlement Matrix of this resettlement plan.

D. Entitlement Matrix

179. All displaced persons will be entitled to a combination of compensation measures and resettlement assistance, depending on the nature of ownership rights of lost assets and scope of the impact, including social and economic vulnerability of the displaced persons. Unforeseen impacts will be mitigated in accordance with the principles of this framework. The Entitlement Matrix (**Table 47**) has been developed, that summarizes the types of losses and the corresponding nature and scope of entitlements in compliance with National/State Laws and ADB Policy. All compensation and assistance will be paid to the DPs prior to the displacement/relocation under the project.

Table 47: Entitlement Matrix

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
A. Loss of Private Agricultural, Homestead & Commercial Land				
1	Loss of Land (agricultural, Homestead, commercial and Eksonia ¹²)	Affected family (Landowner/ Titleholder family and families with traditional land right/ occupiers)	<p>There are two options (1) Land acquired through RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and (2) Land procured through direct purchase policy of SGoA meeting the replacement cost requirement (SPS 2009)</p> <p>(i) Compensation/lease amount shall be calculated and payable in accordance with Sections 26 to 30 and Schedule 1 of RFCTLARR Act 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation at market value¹³ of the land, including valuation of all assets (structures, trees, crops) attached to the land; multiplication factor as applicable; plus a "Solatium" equal to the amount of compensation (100%) for land including all attached assets. <p>(ii) Partial Impact on Land: In case only part of any land plot is affected, and its owner desires the whole plot be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under direct purchase, the landowners will get an incentive of 25% in lieu of R&R benefits, on the compensation calculated as per provisions of Section 26 to 30, Valuation of immovable assets & Schedule I of RFCTLARR Act 2013. • R&R entitlements such as livelihood assistance, subsistence allowance, transportation cost, one-time resettlement allowance, provision of housing, choice of annuity or employment, etc. will be provided as per this EM. • The assistance amounts mentioned under this Entitlement matrix is as per the RFCTLARR Act 2013.

¹² Eksonia Land holders are not a Land Holder but a Settlement holder only to whom settlement of land is offered only for one year or three years, in rural and urban areas respectively.

¹³ The market value meets the replacement cost based on the elements i.e. (i) fair market value; (ii) transaction costs; (iii) interest accrued, (iv) transitional and restoration costs; and (v) other applicable payments, if any.

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
			<p>acquired on grounds that the plot has become uneconomic or has been severed due to LA (under Section 94), the competent authority can award compensation for remaining part of the plot or award 25% of actual value of the remaining land holding as additional compensation, allowing the owner to retain the remaining land plot, if agreeable.</p> <p>OR in case of consent, DLLPC ¹⁴ will consider acquiring the remaining unviable parcel at the same rate.</p> <p>(iii) For land acquired under RFCTLARR Act 2013, rehabilitation and resettlement assistance as per Schedule II of the Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsistence allowance of Rs 36,000. • Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes displaced from 'Scheduled Areas' will get an additional Rs 50,000 • Resettlement Allowance of Rs 50,000. <p>(iv) If as a result of land acquisition, the affected family becomes landless or is reduced to the status of a "small" or "marginal" farmer,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance amount of Rs.5.0 lakhs • Each affected family shall be given a one-time "Resettlement Allowance" of Rs.50,000/- only. <p>(v) Support for livelihood restoration/ enhancement: livelihood training for self or for any of his/ her family</p>	<p>However, the amount will be paid as per the current price index (Section 31 of the RFCTLARR Act). The budget is calculated considering the current price index and further details are discussed under the chapter legal and policy framework (Table 45).</p>

¹⁴ A committee constituted at district level with negotiate land price with landowners and purchase required land through negotiated settlement. The concerned District Commissioner is Chairman and Additional District Commissioner (Revenue) as Member Secretary and with the member Revenue officials, representation from WRD, and may also have representation from other required departments.

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
			<p>members will be entitled to have the training from National Skill Development Corporation or Assam Skill Development Mission or Assam State Urban Livelihood Mission or Assam State Rural Livelihood Mission, as the case may be. Those who have undergone training will be given Rs. 25,000/- per family. The training cost will be borne by the Project Authority.</p> <p>(vi) Refund of stamp duty and registration charges at 6% and 8.5% respectively or as prevailing at the time of purchase, incurred for replacement land to be paid by the project; replacement land must be bought within a year from the date of payment of compensation to project affected persons.</p>	
B. Loss of Private Structures (Residential/Commercial)				
2	<p>Loss of Structure (house, shop, building or immovable property or assets attached to the land)</p>	Title Holder/ Owner	<p>(i) Cash compensation for loss of immovable assets as estimated u/s 29 of RFCTLARR Act 2013 meeting the replacement cost requirement (SPS 2009)</p> <p>(ii) Lump-sum amount of Rs. 25,000/- to all families who lose cattle shed, or replacement cost of structure, whichever is higher.</p> <p>(iii) For each affected family of an artisan or self-employed or own non-agricultural land that is displaced and must be relocated, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One-time assistance of Rs. 25,000/- would be payable; and - One-time subsistence grant of Rs. 36,000/- for each affected family who are displaced and required to relocate would be payable. 	<p>In case of direct purchase, DLLPC with WRD will define typical immovable assets (that cannot be carried away without a reduction in value) of different category and fix the guidance price through expert/valuator. This price of the asset is then calculated based on the guidance price on pro-rata basis. The minimum negotiated price shall not be less than the market value and, in any case, not be lower than the compensation and other entitlements under RFCTLARR Act 2013.</p>

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) One-time financial assistance of Rs. 50,000/-for each displaced family towards shifting/transportation cost for shifting of the family, building materials, belongings, and cattle. (v) Right to salvage material from affected structures (vi) Two months advance notice to vacate structure from the date of payment of compensation (vii) Refund of stamp duty and registration charges for purchase of new alternative houses/shops at prevailing rates on the market value as determined. Alternative houses/shops must be bought within a year from the date of payment of compensation (viii) In case of partial impact, 25% additional award to be paid on compensation award for the affected part of the structure to enable damage repair where the owner/occupier of his/ her own will, interested to retain the remaining part of the structure, provided the unimpaired continuous use of such structure is possible without hazards (ix) For commercial DPs, support for livelihood restoration/ enhancement. Counseling, skill development/ training support shall be imparted through by RIPP implementation support agency, based on needs assessments. This assistance includes the cost of training and financial assistance for travel/conveyance and food. Project work opportunities too would be explored 	
3	Loss of Structure (house, shop,	Tenants/ Lease Holders	(i) Registered lessees will be entitled to an apportionment of the compensation payable	The lease amount for the remaining period will be paid to the lessee and the same shall be

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
	building or immovable property or assets attached to the land)		to structure owner as per applicable local laws. (ii) One-time financial assistance of Rs. 50,000/- as transportation and relocation cost in case of tenants, two months' written notice will be provided to vacate. In case no notice is provided to vacate structures, then three months' rental allowance will be provided in lieu of notice	deducted from the compensation amount of the owner.
C. Loss of Trees and Crop				
4	Standing trees, crops within ROW	Owners and beneficiaries (Registered/ Un-registered tenants, contract cultivators, leaseholders & sharecroppers	(i) Cash compensation for standing crop/ trees/ horticulture, as estimated u/s 29 of RFCTLARR Act 2013 meeting the replacement cost requirement (SPS 2009) & calculated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned Forest Department or similar authority for timber trees Concerned State Agriculture Extension Department or similar authority for standing crops (ii) Three months advance notice to project affected persons to harvest fruits, standing crops and removal of trees, or compensation in lieu as determined above.	Registered/un-registered tenants, contract cultivators & leaseholders & sharecroppers will be eligible for compensation for trees and crops as per the agreement document or mutual understandings between the owner and the beneficiaries respectively.
D. Loss of Residential/ Commercial Structures by Non-Titleholders				
5	Impact on Structures/ other Assets of Squatters and Encroachers	Users of Structures or Occupants of structures (Encroachers, Squatters) identified as per Project Census Survey	For Residential Structures (i) The market value of structures and other immovable properties will be determined by PWD (Buildings) on the basis of relevant PWD Schedule of Rates (SoR) as on date without depreciation or replacement cost, whichever is higher.	

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
			<p>(ii) One-time subsistence grant of Rs. 36,000</p> <p>(iii) Shifting/transportation assistance of Rs.50,000/-</p> <p>(iv) Encroachers shall be given one month's notice to vacate occupied land.</p> <p>(v) Right to salvage the affected materials</p> <p>For Commercial Structure (including Kiosk, petty shops)</p> <p>(vi) Compensation at PWD SoR without depreciation for structure</p> <p>(vii) One-time subsistence grant of Rs. 36,000</p> <p>(viii) One-time rehabilitation grant of Rs. 25,000/- for reconstruction of affected shop given to shop owners</p> <p>(ix) Shifting/transportation assistance of Rs. 50,000/-</p> <p>(x) Encroachers /Squatters shall be given two months' notice to vacate occupied structure</p> <p>(xi) Right to salvage the affected materials</p> <p>(xii) Support for livelihood restoration/ enhancement: livelihood training for self or for any of his/ her family members will be entitled to have the training from National Skill Development Corporation or Assam Skill Development Mission or Assam State Urban Livelihood Mission or Assam State Rural Livelihood Mission, as the case may be. Those who have undergone training will be given Rs. 25,000/- per family. The training cost will be borne by the Project Authority.</p> <p>(xiii) For alternative sites/houses, the land size will be equal to PMAY houses and construction cost same as</p>	

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
			that of the PMAY will be provided at prevailing rates.	
E. Loss of Livelihood				
6	Loss of employment in non-agricultural activities or daily agricultural wages or other wage earners	Livelihood Loser	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsistence allowance equivalent to Minimum Wages/Minimum Agricultural Wages for 3 months as per the department of labour (Present minimum wage is INR 446 as per Labour Commissioner Assam Notification ECF No. 412503/410-330 dated 25 March 2025) Only agricultural laborers who are in full-time permanent employment of the landowner, or those affected full time employees of the affected business structures, will be eligible for this assistance. Seasonal agricultural laborers will not be entitled for this assistance 	
7	Temporary loss of business	Business Owners	Compensation for temporary loss of income due to loss of access shall be determined as per data on income collected during project census survey, and paid commensurate to the period of loss of income	
8	Temporarily loss of livelihoods due to restriction of access for fishing and boating	Livelihood Loser	Loss of income / livelihood due restriction of access for fishing and boating identified through project census survey will receive the equivalent of 3 months minimum wage as per district's rate or monthly income for 3 months, whichever is higher, as applicable from Project Authorities, i.e., respective PIUs.	
F. Additional Support to Vulnerable Group				
9	Special Vulnerable Assistance	Vulnerable affected families (TH and NTH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) One-time vulnerability allowance of Rs. 50,000/- (ii) Preference for employment in the project construction works (iii) Support for livelihood restoration/ enhancement: 	

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
			livelihood training for self or for any of his/ her family members will be entitled to have the training from National Skill Development Corporation or Assam Skill Development Mission or Assam State Urban Livelihood Mission or Assam State Rural Livelihood Mission, as the case may be.	
G. Loss of Community Infrastructure/Common Property Resources				
10	Community Assets	Affected community	Affected community assets will be replaced or rehabilitated or reconstructed and transferred to local authorities for maintenance/augmentation. In the case of community opted for compensation in lieu of reconstruction, compensation on market value shall be provided to the affected community. Alternate land will be explored (may be offered by the community or Gram Panchayat land or any other land agreed upon).	PIU/RIPP implementation support agency will carry out consultation with the affected community In case of relocation of religious structures, the cost of ceremonies and rituals required during shifting will be included/paid
f11	Utilities such as water supply, drainage, sewerage, electricity, etc.	Affected community	Will be relocated and services restored prior to commencement of civil works. The project will ensure that utilities are relocated prior to commencement of civil works in accordance with the civil works schedule	
I. Temporary Impact During Construction				
12	Land and assets temporarily impacted during construction regardless of	Owners of Land and assets	Temporary losses incurred during construction will be paid by the contractor as determined below ¹⁵ : i. Damaged structure: Compensation will be estimated as per the latest Schedule of Rates (SOR) of Public Works Department,	PIU/RIPP implementation support agency will ensure that

¹⁵These provisions will be added to the Bid Documents.

SN	Impact	Entitled Unit	Entitlements	Implementation Guidelines
	their legal status		<p>without depreciation.</p> <p>ii. Crops and Trees: Compensation for crops & tree damages will be estimated as per Section 29(3) of RFCTLARR Act.</p> <p>All temporary use of land outside right of way, would be done based on written /prior approval of landowner and contractor</p>	this should not result any physical displacement.
J. Provision of Alternate Relocation Site for Landless NTH				
13	Loss of residential and commercial structures belong to landless NTH due to the project	Landless NTH	The project will provide suitable alternative sites for relocation of landless NTH with basic minimum amenities subject to the availability of suitable Government land in the locality.	

VIII. RELOCATION OF HOUSING AND SETTLEMENTS

A. Basic Provision for Relocation

180. The Project will provide replacement of structures or cash compensation at full replacement cost for lost structures or replacement cost compensation for partially damaged structures, and relocation assistance, according to the Entitlement Matrix. The executing agency will resettle or compensate non-titleholders for the loss of assets other than land, such as dwellings, shops, and also for other improvements to the land, at full replacement cost.

B. Need for Relocation

181. Despite the efforts made to minimize the resettlement impacts, the proposed project will affect residential and commercial structures as a result of which both physical and economic displacement will arise and need of relocation in the project. Measures are proposed through various provisions in this resettlement plan to mitigate negative social impacts caused up on displaced persons and communities by supporting relocation of affected households and by restoration of income to national minimum standard.

182. In the subproject 312 residential structures owned by 155 HHs, 7 commercial structure owned by 2 HHs, 1 residential cum commercial structure owned by 1 HH and 48 other private secondary structures owned by 21 households are being affected as shown in **Table 48**. District specific details for loss of private structures are appended as **Appendix 8** (Volume II).

Table 48: Summary of Loss of Private Structure

Sl. No	Type of Loss	No of Structure	No of Households
1	Residential Structure	312	155
2	Commercial Structure	7	2
3	Residential cum commercial structure	1	1
4	Other Private Structure	48	21
Total		368	179

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

183. To understand the preferred relocation options, DPs were consulted during the census survey and out of 179 households losing structures all 179 (100%) have opted for self-relocation and no one opted for project-based relocation. The details are given in **Table 49**.

Table 49: DPs Choice on Relocation and Compensation

SI No	Compensation Options	Total	%
1	Cash for Structure loss	179	100.00
Total		179	100.00

Source: Project Census Survey, 2025

184. Among 884 DPs losing land and land with structure, majority of them 879 (99.43%) opted for cash compensation and only 5 (0.57%) opted for land against loss of land. The details are given in **Table 50**.

Table 50: Compensation option by household losing land

SI No	Compensation Options	Total	%
1	Land for Land loss	5	0.57
2	Cash for land loss	879	99.43
	Total	884	100

Source: Project Census Survey conducted for HHs, 2025

185. Out of 179 DPs losing structure, and all of them opted for cash compensation against loss of their structure. The same is reflected in **Table 51**.

Table 51: Compensation option by household losing structure

SI No	Compensation Options	Total	%
1	Cash for Structure loss	179	100
	Total	179	100.00

C. Relocation Strategy

186. For physically displaced non-titleholders, resettlement sites will be developed after ascertaining their choice and availability of suitable land in the subproject area. This will be a factor in deciding whether or not to develop suitable resettlement sites for small groups of physically displaced households. Those who have adequate land remaining will be encouraged to go for in-situ construction. As part of the implementation activity, the RIPP implementation support agency will consult all physically displaced households and will confirm their choice based on the options available to them. Further, during the implementation their preference to move into the nearest resettlement site would also be ascertained.

187. All the structures affected in the project as per provisions made in the entitlement matrix will be eligible for the following:

- (i) Compensation for structure will be paid at the replacement cost to be calculated as per latest prevailing basic schedules of rates (BSR) without depreciation.
- (ii) One-time resettlement allowance of Rs. 50,000 per affected household.
- (iii) Shifting assistance to all structures at @ of Rs. 50,000 per structure.
- (iv) Right to salvage materials from structure and other assets with no deductions from replacement value.
- (v) Provision of resettlement site for non-titleholders DPs

188. To help the DPs losing structures in getting all above entitlements and relocating themselves, following relocation strategy will be adopted in the project:

- (i) At least 60 days advance notice before demolition of structure.
- (ii) Their dismantled structures materials will not be confiscated, and they will not pay any fine or suffer any sanction.
- (iii) The RIPP implementation support agency will assist DPs during verification of assets and will provide necessary counseling on payment of compensation and assistance.
- (iv) The RIPP implementation support agency will assist the project authorities will obtain the DPs choice for resettlement sites selection of such sites in consultation with DPs.

- (v) The RIPP implementation support agency will assist the project authorities in ensuring a smooth transition (during the part or full relocation of the DPs), helping the DPs to take salvaged materials and shift.
- (vi) In close consultation with the DPs, the RIPP implementation support agency will fix the shifting dates agreed with the DPs in writing and the arrangements desired by the DPs with respect to their entitlements.
- (vii) In case of self-relocation also, the RIPP implementation support agency will assist the DPs in finding alternative land within the village if so desired by the DPs in consultation with village committee and other beneficiaries in the villages.

189. Under this CRBIFRERMP II (additional financing), a structured relocation strategy has been developed to ensure that the displaced persons (DPs) are resettled in a fair, transparent, and sustainable manner. The relocation process is designed in compliance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, 2009), with due attention to minimizing adverse impacts and restoring/improving the living standards of APs.

190. Role of the NGO as RP Implementation Agency during Relocation: The Project will engage experienced NGOs as the Resettlement Plan (RP) Implementation Agency to facilitate the entire process of relocation and rehabilitation. The NGOs will function as the direct interface between the FREEMA, Project Implementing Unit (PIU) and the affected households. Its responsibilities will include:

- Disseminating project information and conducting consultations on relocation options.
- Updating and verifying the list of eligible affected households.
- Assisting APs in exercising informed choice regarding self-relocation or relocation to designated resettlement sites.
- Facilitating disbursement of relocation assistance, shifting allowance, and other entitlements before displacement.
- Supporting APs during physical shifting, ensuring transportation and transitional arrangements.
- Providing continuous handholding support for access to social services and government schemes.

191. The steps involved in the relocation process will comprise of the following

- Identification and Verification – Household-level data on DPs will be verified/updated, including vulnerable categories such as women-headed households, the elderly, disabled, indigenous people and the landless.
- Consultations and Consent – The NGO will organize community meetings to explain relocation entitlements, site options, and timelines.
- Physical Relocation – Affected households will be assisted in shifting their assets, structures, and belongings after receiving of the eligible compensation. Shifting allowances and transitional support will be provided prior to movement.
- Post-Relocation Support – The NGO will work closely with relocated families to facilitate livelihood restoration, social integration, and access to welfare schemes.

192. Convergence with existing Government Schemes - To ensure sustainable rehabilitation, the relocation strategy will integrate project assistance with existing government welfare programs. The NGOs will assist the DPs to access the following schemes:

- Housing and Shelter: PM Awas Yojana (Urban/Rural), Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awaas Yojana.
- Livelihood and Skills: NRLM, PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana, MGNREGA (rural).
- Social Security: Ayushman Bharat (health insurance), National Social Assistance Programme (old age, widow, and disability pensions).
- Basic Services: Jal Jeevan Mission (drinking water), Swachh Bharat Mission (sanitation), Saubhagya Yojana (electricity).
- National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) - Rs 20,000 is given as a lump sum assistance to the bereaved household in the event of death of a bread-winner
- Annapurna Scheme-10 kgs of rice per month is given per month per beneficiary
- Orunodoi' or Arunodoi Scheme- Arunodoi Scheme is a major poverty alleviation programme that was launched by the Government of Assam on 2nd October 2020. Under the scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 830/- per month was provided initially through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the poor households of the state. Amount has now been increased to Rs. 1,250/- per month. Amount is disbursed to the beneficiaries on 10th of every month.
- Assam Mukhyamantri Krishi Sa Sajuli Yojna- Mukhyamantri Krishi Sa Sajuli Yojna was launched in 2018 by Government of Assam. Objective of the scheme is to boost agricultural productivity by procurement of scientific farm implements. Under this scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 5000 will be provided to the eligible farmers of the state. Only small and marginal farmers of Assam are eligible under this scheme.
- Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyaan- "Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyaan" is aimed to support women SHG (Self Help Group) members to become Rural Micro Entrepreneurs and facilitate them to earn an annual income of minimum Rs. 1.00 Lakh through financial assistance as Grant in-aid in the form of Entrepreneurship Fund. All eligible members of the SHGs under Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission of P&RD Department will be provided with a grant-in-aid of Rs.10,000 per member as Entrepreneurship Fund in the first phase. Second and third phase will be notified in due course of time.

D. Development of Resettlement Sites

193. FREMAA will ensure that the resettlement site is suitable for housing purpose and will verify the ownership. Only those sites, which are suitable for housing and amenable for issue of titles, free from encumbrances and shall not cause any further land acquisition and resettlement impacts will be selected for relocation. The suitability of sites for housing will be confirmed from the District Administration and title will be issued to the DPs prior to the commencement of construction of houses. In case of resettlement sites, the minimum facilities described in Third Schedule of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 will be provided. Consultations with the displaced families will be held to ascertain their acceptance.

194. The RIPP implementation support agency, during the verification stage, will consult all DPs eligible for alternate housing, and seek their preference on whether they would like to move into a resettlement site, developed in accordance with the provisions of the Third Schedule of the RFCTLARR Act, or would want support for in-situ construction or would prefer to relocate themselves to their place of choice. Upon obtaining the choice from the eligible DPs and if adequate number of DPs have opted for moving into a resettlement site, the RIPP implementation support agency in consultation with FREMAA will estimate the requirement for resettlement site and the same will be submitted to the jurisdictional District Commissioner. The preference of the DPs is required to be obtained again during joint verification as during the census and socio-

economic survey majority of the DPs (98%) had opted for self-managed relocation as at that time the location of the resettlement site was not known and was not disclosed.

195. The jurisdictional District Commissioner will take efforts to identify suitable government land free from encumbrance for resettlement site and if no land is identified within 1-month, the SIO will request the jurisdictional Circle Officer to initiate steps to purchase suitable land for the same and make necessary funds available with the Circle Officer. The land obtained/purchased for resettlement site will be provided with all amenities and facilities as stipulated in the Third Schedule of the RFCTLARR Act. Plots will be allotted to the DPs through public draw of lots and title will be issued to the DPs.

196. The DPs will be provided with houses built in accordance with the provisions of the RFCTLARR Act and the EM of this RIPP. The stamp duty and registration charges for the house site and building house will be borne by FREMAA. In case of resettlement sites that are situated close to existing villages or urban areas, appropriate measures, such as ensuring identification of land for resettlement site near pre-project habitation and providing common facilities like community hall and playground for children, will be taken to integrate the host population and enhance the various common facilities for smooth integration of host population with resettlers.

E. Relocation Strategy for CPR

197. There is not any built common property resources reported to be affected under the sub-project and only land is affected. The CPRs will be compensated at replacement cost to the community or entity (registered trust, society or village committee as appropriate). The RIPP implementation support agency will assist FREMAA in consultation and selection of alternate site for reconstruction of the CPR.

IX. INCOME RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

A. Loss of Livelihoods in the Project

198. The project impacts reveal that due to land acquisition 1 commercial structure will be impacted. As per the findings of census survey, 684 owners of agricultural land, 2 owner of commercial structures and 1 owner of residential cum commercial structures will be losing their livelihood due to the project related activities. The details of impact on livelihoods in the project are summarized in the **Table 52**.

Table 52: Loss of Livelihoods in the Project

S. N.	Loss	Households	%
1	Owners of Agricultural land	684	97.85
2	Owners of Commercial Structure	2	1.00
3	Owners of Resi+commercial Structure	1	0.29
4	Loss of livelihood (Due to loss of job)	6	0.86
Total		693	100

Source: Project Census Survey, 2025

B. Provisions for Loss of Livelihood

199. In addition to the livelihood assistance provided un the EM, the Project will explore, and attempt provide assistance such as access to credit facilities, training, and employment opportunities so that they can improve, or at least restore, their income-earning capacity, production levels, and standards of living to national minimum standard. The RIPP implementation support agency will prepare the micro plan with specific income restoration activities for each DPs at such appropriate time to enable the DPs to initiate restore their income in line with the construction schedule. Training need assessment will be done for selecting the trades in which the DPs are interested. Convergence will be done with the existing Government Schemes. In addition, during project execution preference will be given to the local people to work as the labour. The subproject entitlements for loss of livelihood include the following entitlements in accordance with the EM of this RIPP.

200. Project entitlement for Loss of livelihood by titleholder households will be the following:
- cash compensation at replacement cost for affected land as per RFCTLARR Act provisions and structure at scheduled rates without depreciation along with 100 percent solatium on market value of land and structure;
 - onetime payment of 5,00,000/- for each affected household or annuity policy that shall pay 2,000/- per month for 20 years with appropriate indexation to CPIAL for physically displaced persons due to more than 10 percent loss of land.
 - right to salvage affected materials;
 - one time assistance of 25,000 for each affected family of an artisan or self-employed or small trader and who has been displaced;
 - displaced families will receive monthly subsistence allowance of 3,000for one year from the date of award;
 - shifting assistance of 50,000/- to the business owner, who is displaced, and
 - one time Resettlement Allowance of 50,000/- for affected household who is displaced.
 - The eligible and willing DPs will be provided project generated employment.

201. Project entitlement for loss of livelihood by squatters will be following:
- a) compensation at scheduled rates without depreciation for structure;
 - b) right to salvage the affected materials,
 - c) one time resettlement allowance of 50,000;
 - d) displaced families will receive a monthly subsistence allowance of 3,000 for one year; and
 - e) displaced families will receive one time shifting assistance of 50,000 towards transport costs.
 - f) The eligible and willing DPs will be provided with project generated employment.

202. To restore and enhance the economic conditions of the DPs, certain income generation and income restoration programs are incorporated in the resettlement plan. To begin with providing employment to the local people during the construction phase will enable them to benefit from the project, reduce the size of intrusive work forces and keep more of the resources spent on the project in the local economy. It will also give the local communities a greater stake and sense of ownership in the project. If the DP desires, the resettlement allowance can be utilized to deliver suitable income restoration activities by leveraging existing schemes and skills of the DP with the help of RIPP implementation support agency. RIPP budget provides funds for vulnerable DHs for skill/income restoration training. This amount of assistance will facilitate livelihood restoration at least to the pre-project level and will improve living standard of vulnerable DPs. The External Monitor in coordination with RIPP implementation support agency monitor the outcome focusing (i) socio-economic conditions of the DPs in the post-resettlement period; (ii) communication and reactions from DPs on entitlements, compensation, options, alternative developments and relocation timetables etc.; (iii) changes in housing and income levels; (iv) rehabilitation of informal settlers; (v) valuation of property; (vi) grievance procedures; (vii) disbursement of compensation etc.

203. The RIPP implementation support agency to be engaged under the Project will identify the eligible and most suitable candidates from the family by carrying out a training needs and market assessment and preparing a micro plan for rehabilitation of DPs. The RIPP implementation support agency will impart training to the selected/eligible DPs for income restoration and skill up-gradation as per the micro plan. The executing agency will also provide opportunities to displaced persons to derive appropriate employment benefits from the project. The vulnerable DPs will be given a preference of availing of employment opportunities in project construction work. In consultation with the women headed households in a case-to-case basis, the RIPP implementation support agency will help them in forming Self-help Groups (SHGs), establish linkages to available credit facilities, special trainings, and linking them with ongoing government schemes. The RIPP implementing agency will Budget for training in terms of assistance is provided to DPs losing livelihoods and the RIPP implementation support agency will either organize training programs by employing appropriate resource persons or link the DPs to various ongoing training schemes. Funds for trainings are provided in the R&R budget keeping in view the average expenditure for ongoing training programs in the project area.

C. Additional Support from Ongoing Poverty Reduction Programs

204. In addition to project-sponsored programs, the RIPP implementation support agency will play a proactive role to mobilize DPs to get benefits from various government schemes National Farmer Policy, animal husbandry and dairy development, development of inland fisheries and agriculture, providing kishan credit card, agriculture insurance schemes etc. and ensure their accessibility particularly of vulnerable groups. The RIPP implementation support agency will coordinate with other agencies such as rural livelihood mission and the panchayat governments

to make available to the DPs benefits of some of the ongoing pro-poor programs for poverty reduction.

D. Adoption of Graduation Approach Under the Project

205. The ongoing project has a pilot program with 400 women, focusing on their economic empowerment. The additional financing will scale this pilot to reach 400 women across multiple districts, ensuring that 60% of the participants are from disadvantaged backgrounds. This approach complements various state-led initiatives that strengthen beneficiaries' wellbeing by providing livelihood assistance through agriculture, livestock, fisheries, industries, and vocational training activities. This will also include training in sustainable agricultural and aquaculture practices for an additional 400 members across all affected districts, enhancing their capacity to implement sustainable agricultural and aquaculture practices. The graduation approach is not exclusively for the DPs but will get preference under the program.

X. RESETTLEMENT BUDGET AND FINANCING PLAN

A. Introduction

206. The resettlement cost estimate for this project includes eligible compensation, resettlement assistance and support cost for RIPP implementation. The support cost, which includes staffing requirements, monitoring and reporting, involvement of RIPP implementation support agency in project implementation and other administrative expenses are part of the overall project cost. The unit cost for structures and other assets in this budget has been derived through field surveys, consultation with affected families, relevant local authorities and reference from current practices. Contingency provisions have also been made to take into account variations from this estimate. Some of the major items of this R&R cost estimate are outlined below:

- (i) compensation for agricultural, residential and commercial land at their replacement value.
- (ii) compensation for structures (residential/ commercial) and other immovable assets at their replacement cost.
- (iii) compensation for trees.
- (iv) subsistence assistance in lieu of the loss of business and livelihood.
- (v) assistance in lieu of the loss of business/ wage income/ employment and livelihood.
- (vi) assistance for shifting the structures.
- (vii) resettlement and rehabilitation assistance in the form of training allowance.
- (viii) special assistance to vulnerable groups for their livelihood restoration; and
- (ix) cost for implementation of RIPP.

B. Compensation

207. The valuation of land and non-land assets (Zirat) carried out by District Commissioner during the month of July 2025 involving joint evaluation of revenue, public works, agriculture, horticulture and forest departments as per the 1st schedule of RFCTLARR-2013 for this subproject has been included under the proposed budget.

C. Assistance

208. All Titleholders DPs¹⁶ land and non-titleholder DPs losing structures will be eligible for onetime resettlement allowance of Rs. 69,505/- (Rupees Sixty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Five only) per affected family.

209. Titleholder DPs losing land will be eligible for one-time assistance of Rs. 500,000/- (Rupees Five Lakh Only) per affected family.

210. Titleholder DPs losing structure, non-titleholder DPs losing structures (squatters only) and tenants will be eligible for onetime shifting assistance of Rs. 69,505/- (Rupees Sixty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Five only) towards transport costs.

¹⁶ In case of Direct purchase Policy THs will not be eligible for separate R&R assistance. As Direct purchase policy has the provision to provide additional 25% financial assistance of the total LA compensation in lieu of R&R benefits. In case of negotiations fails with any THs, then land will be acquired as per RFCTLARR Act 2013 where THs will be eligible for R&R benefits.

211. DPs losing cattle shed will be eligible for Rs. 34,752/- (Rupees Thirty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Two Only) as assistance for reconstruction of cattle shed.

212. All DP losing livelihood will be eligible for onetime financial assistance of minimum Rs. 34,752/- (Rupees Thirty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Two) per affected family.

213. Additional one-time assistance of Rs. 69,505/- (Rupees Sixty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Five only) per affected vulnerable family.

D. Compensation for Community and Property Resources

214. The cost of CPRs is estimated based on the joint measurement survey (zirat) conducted by the Revenue Department including other line departments.

E. Resettlement and Indigenous Peoples Plan Implementation and Support Cost

215. The tentative estimated budget for the RIPP has been calculated to be Rs. **67,51,99,554** (Rs Sixty-Seven Crores Fifty-One Lakhs Ninety-nine Thousand - Five Hundred and Fifty Four Only), including the cost of hiring the RIPP implementing agency. The service of the RIPP implementation support agency will be required for 18 months' period. Costs will be updated during implementation if required. A 10% contingency has been added in order to adjust any unanticipated costs during project implementation. The other costs of RIPP implementation and administrative activities will be a part of existing departmental expenditure. The cost of RIPP implementation support agency and engagement of external monitoring expert is also calculated in the Budget estimates.

F. Estimated RIPP implementation Budget

12. The total R&R budget for the proposed project RIPP is calculated as Rs. 675.20 million. This is an indicative cost estimate and will be further updated prior to implementation. The detailed indicative R&R cost is given below in **Table 53**.

Table 53: Estimated budget

SI No	Item	Unit	Rate	Amount	Amount
A	Compensation for Land and Other Non-land assets ¹⁷			In Rupees	In million Rs.
1	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Golaghat District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		1,31,37,923.00	13.14

¹⁷ The Zirat estimate is based on the joint measurement survey conducted by government which includes valuation of all land and non-land assets including land, structure, tress, well and other immoveable assets.

SI No	Item	Unit	Rate	Amount	Amount
2	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Jorhat District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		7,48,14,235.00	74.81
3	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Dhubri District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		3,29,14,359.00	32.91
4	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Goalpara District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		3,83,72,926.00	38.37
5	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Morigaon District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		8,43,43,624.00	84.34
6	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Biswanath District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		18,11,346.00	1.81
7	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Dhemaji District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		11,65,02,779.00	116.50
8	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Sivasagar District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		67,90,160.00	6.79
9	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Lakhimpur District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		20,15,671.00	2.02
10	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Barpeta District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		11,45,36,036.00	114.54
11	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Nagaon District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		1,06,59,184.38	10.66

SI No	Item	Unit	Rate	Amount	Amount
12	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Kamrup District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		16,99,507.00	1.70
13	Compensation for Land and other Non-land Assets as per Zirat Estimate from Sonitpur District Authority	Actual as per Land and Zirat Estimate		89,64,875.00	8.96
	Subtotal A			50,65,62,625.38	506.56
B	Assistance				
1	One time assistance to land titleholder ¹⁸		6,95,050	0	0
2	Resettlement allowance to eligible NTH DPs ¹⁹	93	69,505	64,63,965	6.46
3	Shifting assistance to eligible NTH DPs losing structure	93	69,505	64,63,965	6.46
4	One time assistance for skill upgradation to DPs losing Livelihood	693	34,752	2,40,83,136	24.08
5	One time assistance for loss of livelihood by employees	6	34,788	2,08,728	0.208
6	Special assistance to Vulnerable DPs ²⁰	413	69,505	2,87,05,565	28.7
7	Assistance for reconstruction of cattle shed	21	34,752	7,29,792	0.73
	Subtotal B			6,66,55,151	66.64
C	RIPP Implementation Support Cost				
1	Hiring of RIPP Implementation Agency	4	80,00,000	3,20,00,000	32
2	Grievance Redressal Cost	Lumpsum		13,00,000	1.3
3	Consultation Cost	Lumpsum		13,00,000	1.3

¹⁸ Provision for one time assistance to landowners is not applicable here, as the land will be directly purchased from the THs through the State policy. This provision is intended for those THs whose land cannot be directly purchased, instead needs to be acquired.

¹⁹ As mentioned in the EM, the project will provide suitable alternative sites for relocation of landless NTH subject to the availability of suitable 'Government land'. For installation of other basic amenities in the relocation site fund will be utilised from contingency amount.

²⁰ Although in some instances few DPs fall under multiple vulnerable categories, the vulnerable assistance has been considered for only one category.

SI No	Item	Unit	Rate	Amount	Amount
2	Hiring External Monitoring Agency/Expert	1	60,00,000	60,00,000	6
	Subtotal C			4,06,00,000	40.60
Total (A+B+C)				61,38,17,776	613.82
Contingency (10%)				6,13,81,778	61.38
GRAND TOTAL				67,51,99,554	675.20

G. Source of Funding and Fund Flow

216. The cost related to resettlement will be borne by the executing agency; however, cost related to hiring of RIPP implementing NGO and hiring external monitoring expert will be a part of ADB loan in this project. The executing agency will ensure allocation of funds and availability of resources for smooth implementation of the project R&R activities. The executing agency will, in advance, initiate the process and allocate the R&R budget in the fiscal budget through the ministry of finance. In the case of assistance and other rehabilitation measures, the executing agency will directly pay the money or any other assistance as stated in the resettlement plan to DPs. The RIPP implementation support agency will be involved in facilitating the disbursement process and rehabilitation program. The total budget for resettlement plan implementation is estimated to be INR 675.41 million and will be borne by the State Government, except the amount of INR 32 million for engagement of RIPP implementation NGO and INR 6 million for engagement of External Monitor which will be a part of ADB loan in this project for hiring the services of RIPP implementation NGO and hiring of External Monitoring Expert.

H. Disbursement of Compensation and Assistance

217. In order to ensure that: (i) the DP need not make frequent visits to his/her bank for depositing the physical paper; (ii) s/he need not apprehend loss of instrument and fraudulent encashment; and (iii) the delay in realization of proceeds after receipt of paper instrument is obviated, all disbursement of compensation for land and structure and R&R assistances shall be done only through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) mechanism and charges for ECS, if any, will be borne by PIU as part of the administrative cost. If the DPs destination branch does not have the facility to receive ECS (Credit), then the disbursement through account payee cheques will be made wherever required and no cash payment will be made.

218. The RIPP implementation support agency and PIU, while collecting bank particulars from the DPs, will also check with the respective bank branches if the branch has ECS (Credit) mechanism, and if not, details of lead bank offering the facility will be collected to facilitate ECS transfer. Wherever new accounts are opened, preference will be given to banks having ECS facility. If the account is Jan Dhan type, the RIPP implementation support agency will assist the DP to have it converted to a regular savings account to enable payment of compensation and R&R assistances to the account. The bank account particulars of the DP as part of the disbursement micro plan will be submitted to the jurisdictional District Commissioner for disbursement.

XI. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

A. Need for Project Specific Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

220. A project-specific grievance redress mechanism (GRM) has been established to receive, evaluate and facilitate the resolution of displaced people's concerns, complaints and grievances about the social and environmental performance at the level of the Project. The GRM is aimed at providing a time-bound and transparent mechanism to voice and resolve social and environmental concerns linked to the project. The project-specific GRM is not intended to bypass the government's own redress process, rather it is intended to address displaced people's concerns and complaints promptly, making it readily accessible to all segments of the displaced people and is scaled to the risks and impacts of the project. The affected people may access the National/State legal system at any time.

221. The established GRM for the original packages under CRBIFRERMP Phase I is functional and the same will act as the GRM for the proposed additional financing CRBIFRERMP. Information regarding GRM is disclosed as part of the stakeholder/public consultation process. Grievances related to the implementation of the project will be acknowledged, evaluated, and responded to the complainant with corrective action proposed. The outcome shall also form part of the semi-annual monitoring report that will be submitted to ADB.

222. The GRM is in place to work within existing legal and cultural frameworks, providing an additional opportunity to resolve grievances at the local and sub-project level. The key objectives of the GRM are to:

- Educate stakeholders on the GRM
- Receive and record the grievances
- Resolve and close the grievances
- Escalate unsolved grievances to concerned authority
- Notify/ update the stakeholders of the solutions

223. The types of grievances the stakeholders may file for all the project components include, but are not limited to:

- Non-payment, or inadequate compensation and/or due R&R assistances;
- Wrong measurement of land parcel
- Construction related impacts – damages to structures; dust damaging crops/trees
- Health and safety risks;
- Negative impacts on the environment;
- Negative impacts on communities
- Physical harm and nuisance from construction or operational activities;
- Impacts arising from migrant labor on local communities
- Exclusion from beneficiary lists
- Lack of information and opportunities for participation

224. Presently, FREMAA and WRD are also addressing grievances raised through the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), which is an online portal implemented by the Government of India and hosted by National Informatics Centre (NIC).

The Chief Minister of Assam can be contacted for any help at phone numbers 0361-2262222/2237043, Fax Number 0361-2262069 and email cm@assam.gov.in.

225. In the previous ADB (Tranche-II) Project, Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) was established at three levels, one at the project (Division/PIU) level, another at the district level, and the third at Executing Agency (PMU) level, to receive, evaluate and facilitate the resolution of affected person concerns, complaints, and grievances. The same three tier GRM process will be adopted under this Project.

226. The GRM system and the committees formed at various levels would be intended to address stakeholders' grievances and dissatisfaction about actual or perceived impacts and to find a satisfactory solution. The GRM will function throughout the project cycle for use by stakeholders to address concerns and complaints promptly and transparently. The Project specific GRM is not binding, and the affected persons can approach the Judiciary any time if they wish to do so. Taking grievances to Judiciary will be avoided as far possible and the resettlement plan implementing agency will make utmost efforts and reconciliation at the level of GRC.

B. Division/PIU Level GRC

227. The concerned Project Implementation Unit (PIU)/Water Resources Division (WRD) nominate 1 (one) official to oversee the implementation of RIPP and to provide response to the grievances raised by the community and affected persons. The GRC at Division/PIU Level will be constituted with the members presented in the **Table 54**.

Table 54: List of Members at PIU Level GRC

1.	Executive Engineer (WRD) – concerned Division	Chairperson
2.	Assistant Executive Engineer (WRD) – concerned Division	Member-Secretary
3.	Nominated official from RIPP implementing NGO	Member
4.	Gaon Bura (Village Head) of the concerned village	Member
5.	Two Community Members (Female)	Members

C. District Level GRC

228. The second level GRC is constituted at each Project District headed by the District Commissioner. The GRC at district level consists of the members presented in the **Table 55**:

Table 55: List of Members at District Level GRC

1.	District Commissioner of the District or his representative	Chairperson
2.	Additional District Commissioner (LA)	Member-Secretary
3.	Revenue Circle Officer(s) – concerned Revenue Circles	Member
4.	Executive Engineer (WRD) – concerned Division	Member
5.	Nominated official from RIPP implementing NGO	Member
6.	Members of the Panchayat/ULB	Member
7.	One Representative of the Affected Person	Members

229. There shall be not more than 7 (seven) members in the committee. There shall be minimum one-third women representation in the committee.

D. PMU Level GRC

230. The PMU level GRC will function as an appellate authority and ensure that the stakeholders have access to legitimate, reliable, transparent, and efficient institutional mechanisms that are responsive to their complaints. The unresolved grievances accelerate to the PMU level GRC including grievances received through the previously mentioned platforms such as CPGRAMS are forwarded to WRD, which will in turn be placed before the PMU level committee for redressal. The GRC at PMU level will be constituted with the members presented in the **Table 56**:

Table 56: List of Members at PMU Level GRC

1.	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) FREMAA	Chairperson
2.	Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Dy. CEO) FREMAA	Member-Secretary
3.	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) AADB	Member
4.	Secretary to the Government of Assam Revenue and Disaster Management Department	Member
5.	Chief Engineer WRD	Member
6.	Chief Technical Officer (CTO)	Member

E. Key Elements of GRM under the project

231. The project GRM has the following key elements and procedures for satisfactory functioning:

232. **Flexible Grievance Registration Process:** The grievances can be registered by person, phone, text message, mail, email, via website, verbal, etc. Prior to registering the complaint/ query, a procedural step will be in place to assess its eligibility and check that issues raised in the complaint fall within the scope that the GRM is mandated to address. Queries or complaints may be received in a variety of forms ranging from verbal communications to formal and written complaints; also, directly from DPs or via third parties. Whatever the source and the form in which the query or complaint is received, it will be accepted by the focal points and registered in a grievance register and online portal. It is also to be mentioned that uniformity will be maintained in the complaint registration systems across different sections and agencies of the project. For registering the Grievances, the field staffs of PIU and the implementing NGOs will act a supporting agent specially for the IPs and illiterates.

233. **Log of Grievances and Database:** A Grievance Register will be maintained in which all grievances are recorded and digitized and maintained as a database at the PIU level by the designated official to document the grievance as per the prescribed format attached including details of the date and type of grievance received, the date of personal hearing provided to the complainant, the date when grievance was redressed or if not redressed date of forwarding the grievance to GRC. Provision will be made to record and maintain grievances received directly on-site and incorporated in the Grievance Register. This register will be placed at the Executive Engineer's office of the concerned division. This will serve as the First Level of Grievance resolution. The monitoring and reporting of project's GRM will be recorded in the SSMR.

234. **Redressal Durations and Disclosed Procedures:** The GRM procedures will be publicly advertised and popularized for use by the stakeholders. The GRM will also set out the length of time users can expect to wait for acknowledgement, response, and resolution of their grievances. The GRM system will be popularized among the communities through IEC campaigns, IEC material, wall writings, etc. In addition to this, the length of time the complaints can expect to wait for acknowledgement, response, and resolution of different types of grievances. The response time prescribed for the GRC would be three weeks at each level. Since the entire resettlement component of the project has to be completed before the construction starts for the whole project, the GRC will meet at least once a month, or as needed, to resolve the grievances. Sixty percent attendance of the committee members at all three levels will constitute a quorum for the meeting. However, in the case of divisional and district level GRC, participation of community members and representatives of DPs and RIPP implementation support agency will be mandatory. The PIU will also ensure installation of Display Boards at site with GRM information with support from the civil works contractors/ implementing support NGO and in consultation with project Management Unit (PMU), FREMAA. The GRC will meet once a month.

235. **Transparency and Good Governance:** The GRM procedures, governing structure and decision-making process will be popularized among the communities through IEC materials and campaigns. For transparency and good governance, community members are selected as members of the GRC at field level, Grievances that cannot be resolved at the PIU/ PMU level and in cases where the complainant is not satisfied with the decision, will be referred to the district level GRC. Consultative meetings along with distribution of leaflets with the community and DPs will also be conducted to educate them on the GRM and its escalation matrix for resolving grievances to encourage them to use and access it in case of need. The PMU and PIU adhere to the principle of confidentiality while informing the same to the district level GRC (if required) as the case may be. The designated official at the PIU will also be responsible to ensure that a mechanism is put in place to address grievances of labors and staff deployed at project sites by the Contractors.

236. **Escalation:** The project GRM provides for escalation at different levels, so that the unresolved grievances might be redressed at higher levels of GRM. Mediation is also encouraged as an option when the users are not satisfied with the grievance redressal.

237. Further, for land related grievances, the GRC will provide an opportunity to have their grievances redressed prior to approaching the State level LARR Authority, constituted by Government of Assam in accordance with Section 51(1) of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013. Decision of the District Level GRC will be final, unless an appeal is preferred with the PMU level. If the committee is unable to arrive at a decision through consensus, the matter will be referred to the appellate authority with a note on the opinion of the committee members. Other than disputes relating to ownership rights and apportionment issues, on which the LA and RR Authority have jurisdiction, GRC will review grievances involving eligibility, valuation, all resettlement and rehabilitation benefits, relocation, and payment of assistance. The already established GRM under the original project is adequate, functional and working smoothly addressing the project's grievances.

238. **Accountability Mechanism of ADB.** People who are, or may in the future be, adversely affected by the project may submit complaints to ADB's Accountability Mechanism. The Accountability Mechanism provides an independent forum and process whereby people adversely affected by ADB-assisted projects can voice, and seek a resolution of their problems, as well as report alleged violations of ADB's operational policies and procedures. Before submitting a complaint to the Accountability Mechanism, affected people should make a good

effort to solve their problems by working with the concerned ADB operations department. Only after doing that, and if they are still dissatisfied, should they approach the Accountability Mechanism.²¹

239. Additional grievance management. In addition to the project-level grievance mechanism provided by the borrower, people who are, or may in the future be, adversely affected by the project have a range of forums available to them for purposes of raising their complaints, grievances, and concerns. These include applicable judicial or administrative forums and ADB through the resident missions and the ADB project teams. The borrower will help ensure that project-affected people are made aware of these forums to address their complaints, grievances, and concerns. The borrower should provide the applicable ADB contact details as part of stakeholder consultations and information disclosure, including in response letters to a complaint where appropriate, so that project-affected people know how to reach out to ADB.

²¹For further information see: <http://www.adb.org/Accountability-Mechanism/default.asp>.

XII. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. Executing agency: FREMAA

240. FREMAA was set up further to cabinet endorsement in January 2010. It is headed by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) assisted by a Deputy Chief Executive Officer and has two operational wings headed by two EOs on technical FRERM and non-technical FRERM (operations, plus two units for finance and accounts and for administration).

241. FREMAA, being the executing agency of the proposed ADB-financed project will lead the contract administration, monitoring, and reporting aspects of the project through a Project Management Unit (PMU) based in Guwahati. The proposed ADB-financed project is to be headed by a full-time Project Director (potentially of the rank of Chief Executive Officer).

B. Implementing agencies: WRD and AADB

242. WRD is the key implementing agency of the project and is responsible for the civil works, from preparation of bidding documents to procurement and implementation. Procurement activities will be undertaken through the Chief Engineer, WRD assisted by a new procurement cell of WRD. Also, an additional CE, WRD will act as nodal point for the project. It was agreed to have one PIU in WRD office in Guwahati. A Social Development Officer has already been recruited under the EAP cell of WRD, who will be coordinating for the overall land acquisition and R&R activities supported by RIPP implementation support agency/NGO will be hired for each PIUs.

243. Assam Agroforestry Development Board (AADB) under the Forest Department will be involved in the project to bring their expertise on nature-based solutions (such as nature-based anti-erosion solutions, phyto remediation, biodiversity enhancement measures) – activities that may also be beneficial to livelihoods development in the subproject areas. PIU established under AADB will be implementing the nature-based solutions at the selected subproject level.

244. Divisional level PIUs at subproject level constituted to handle the subproject level project implementation work headed by Executive Engineers from WRD Divisions.

C. Partner Agencies: BB, AIWTD and ASDMA

245. FREMAA and WRD will coordinate the planning of new riverbank protection and embankment works with AIWTD and BB to avoid any duplicity of activities and maximize synergies as well as data and knowledge sharing.

246. It is anticipated that ASDMA will focus on (i) disseminating flood forecasting and warning information collected from different sources (CWC, AIRBMP, CRBIFRERM), including to communities (village level); (ii) community-based flood risk management activities to enhance disaster preparedness, including emergency planning; (iii) other activities/equipment aiming at reducing vulnerability to flooding; and (iv) updating existing preparedness plans, evacuation plans, contingency plans after civil works would have been built to ensure that the new structures and their benefits are incorporated in the plans.

D. Social Safeguard Management under the Project

247. PMU at FREMAA Headquarters in Guwahati is specifically responsible for overall social, resettlement and land-related issues at the Project level, with the help of PIUs, Field Supervisors, PISC and the RIPP implementation support agencies to be hired by FREMAA. Field supervisors are appointed for each subproject district and coordinate with respective land acquisition departments. The existing Social Development Specialist (SDS) of the PMU will provide overall coordination and guidance on resettlement planning and implementation. This will include preparation of RIPPs, facilitating and monitoring the meaningful and informed stakeholder consultations, identification and verification survey, updated socio-economic surveys/census, coordinating the preparation and implementation of RIPPs, including those differentially impacted and estimation of impacts, identification of innovative, promising strategies for restoring livelihoods of the impacted, coordinate the implementation of risk mitigation measures proposed under the RIPPs, ensure functionality and awareness about the GRM set up for DPs and mandatory disclosure of RIPP (including their availability in local language) and prepare semi-annual social safeguard monitoring reports. The PIU level office will be supported by the PISC social expert and RIPP implementation support agency to be hired by PIU for land acquisition and resettlement related activities. The FREMAA has already experience of implementing ADB financed Project earlier and currently also implementing one WB financed Project.

E. Project Implementation Support Consultant (PISC)

248. FREMAA has hired a Project Implementation Support Consultant (PISC) to support it in the execution and supervision of the overall project. The PISC team has one international land acquisition and resettlement specialist and one national land acquisition and resettlement specialist to assist PMU level SDS in coordinating and supervising RIPP updating, implementation and monitoring work. An assessment on the implementation capacity of the Project Implementation Support Consultants (PISC) has already been carried out to evaluate their effectiveness in supporting the Project Management Unit (PMU) for timely and quality implementation of the project, as PISC is already engaged for CRBIFRERMP Phase I. The assessment focused on key performance areas such as availability and deployment of key experts, adequacy of technical and social safeguard staff, quality of design review and supervision, progress monitoring and reporting, coordination with contractors and stakeholders, and responsiveness to field issues. It has been found that PISC demonstrated adequate capacity and technical competence, focused improvements in team coordination, timeliness, and quality assurance, which are necessary for effective and efficient project delivery.

F. RIPP Implementation Support Agency

249. PMU will hire RIPP implementing agencies, preferably NGOs, to support PIU/subproject level land acquisition and RIPP implementation work across the whole project. It is proposed to engage four RIPP implementation support agencies as per the decided Lot numbers. For Lot 1 one agency covering (i) Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Biswanath and Sonitpur; Lot 2 covers (ii) Sivasagar, Jorhat and Golaghat; Lot 3 covers (iii) Kamrup, Nagaon and Morigaon and Lot 4 covers (iv) Barpeta, Dhubri and Goalpara District. These agencies will support the day today land acquisition and RIPP implementation work specifically; conduct identification and verification survey, stakeholder consultations, updated socio-economic surveys/ census, update RIPPs, prepare micro plans, assist DPs in relocation process and livelihood restoration process.

G. External Monitor (EM)

250. Since the Project is categorized as Category 'A' in terms of IR safeguard requirement of ADB, PMU will be hiring an external monitoring consultant for the Project. Monitoring and evaluation will include (i) the verification or establishment of a socio-economic baseline of the DPs prior to actual land acquisition, physical displacement/relocation, loss of assets or disruption of businesses (as relevant); (ii) verification of internal monitoring data and reports; (iii) the regular monitoring of their resettlement or displacement/relocation including livelihood restoration (as relevant) and adjustment during Project implementation; and (iv) evaluation of their situation for a period of one year after land acquisition or displacement or relocation (as relevant).

XIII. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

A. RIPP Implementation

251. Implementation of resettlement plan mainly consists of compensation to be paid for affected structures and rehabilitation and resettlement activities. The time for implementation of resettlement plan will be scheduled as per the overall project implementation. All activities related to the land acquisition and resettlement must be planned to ensure that compensation is paid prior to displacement and commencement of civil works.

252. The implementing agencies and PIUs will ensure that no physical or economic displacement of displaced households will occur until: (i) compensation at full replacement cost has been paid to each displaced person for project components or sections that are ready to be constructed; (ii) other entitlements listed in the resettlement plan are provided to the displaced persons; and (iii) a comprehensive income and livelihood rehabilitation program, supported by adequate budget, is in place to help displaced persons, improve, or at least restore, their incomes and livelihoods.

253. The draft RIPP has been prepared and submitted and subsequently to be approved by government and ADB and disclosed prior to implementation. Public consultation, monitoring and grievance redress will be undertaken intermittently throughout the project duration. However, the schedule is subject to modification depending on the progress of the project activities. The civil works will only be commenced after all compensation and relocation has been completed for project and rehabilitation measures are in place.

B. Schedule for Project Implementation

254. The proposed project R&R activities are divided into three broad categories based on the stages of work and process of implementation. The details of activities involved in these three phases like Project Preparation phase, resettlement plan Implementation phase, Monitoring and Reporting period are discussed in the following paragraphs.

255. **Project Preparation Phase:** The major activities to be performed in this period include establishment of PIU at project level; submission of resettlement plan for ADB approval; appointment of resettlement plan implementation agency and establishment of GRC etc. The information campaign and community consultation will be a process initiated from this stage and will go on till the end of the project.

256. As a pre implementation activity, the draft RIPP will be updated on the basis of final design, verification of survey of DPs including any additional due diligence required to be carried out under the project.

257. **Resettlement Plan Implementation Phase:** After the project preparation phase the next stage is implementation of resettlement plan which includes issues like compensation of award by executing agency; payment of all eligible assistance; relocation of DPs; initiation of economic rehabilitation measures; site preparation for delivering the site to contractors for construction and finally starting civil work.

258. **Monitoring and Reporting Period:** As mentioned earlier the internal monitoring will be the responsibility of PIU and RIPP implementation support agency and will start early during the project when implementation of resettlement plan starts and will continue till the complementation

XIV. MONITORING AND REPORTING

A. Need for Monitoring and Reporting

260. Monitoring and reporting are critical activities in involuntary resettlement in order to ameliorate problems faced by the DPs and develop solutions immediately. Monitoring is a periodic assessment of planned activities providing midway inputs. It facilitates change and gives necessary feedback on activities and the directions in which they are going.

B. Monitoring at EA Level

261. The monitoring mechanism will have a two-tier system at the EA level (i) Internal Monitoring and (ii) External Monitoring.

262. **Internal Monitoring:** One of the main roles of the FREMAA is to oversee proper and timely implementation of all activities in RIPP. Internal Monitoring will be a regular activity for the FREMAA, which will oversee the timely implementation of R&R activities. Internal Monitoring will be carried out by the FREMAA with help from PIUs, PISC and RIPP implementation support agency. RIPP implementation support agency to prepare monthly reports on the progress of RIPP Implementation based on the field activities under the guidance of SDS and Field Supervisors. Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Non-technical) FREMAA with support from the Social Safeguard Specialist, FREMAA and International and National Resettlement Specialist, PISC will be reviewing the monthly reports to assess the progress and results of RIPP implementation and adjust work program where necessary, in case of delays or problems. Social Safeguard Specialist, FREMAA with support from International and National Resettlement Specialist, PISC will be responsible for preparation of quarterly progress report on RIPP implementation for submission to ADB and Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Non-technical), FREMAA will review the quarterly report and submit the same to ADB. Both monitoring and reporting will form parts of regular activities and reporting on this will be extremely important in order to undertake mid-way corrective steps.

263. **External or Independent Monitoring:** External (or independent) monitor will be hired by the EA to provide an independent periodic assessment of resettlement implementation and impacts to verify internal monitoring, and to suggest adjustment of delivery mechanisms and procedures as required. A social and economic assessment of the results of delivered entitlements and measurement of the income and standards of living of the DPs before and after resettlement will be integral components of this monitoring activity.

264. To function effectively, the consultant will be responsible for external monitoring independent of the governmental agencies involved in resettlement implementation. The external monitor will submit bi-annual review directly to ADB and the EA to determine the effectiveness of RIPP implementation. The monitoring consultant/agency will be selected within three months of loan approval by the EA with ADB concurrence. The monitoring will be carried out every year during the RIPP implementation. The key tasks during external monitoring will include:

- Review and verify the internal monitoring reports prepared by EA;
- Review of socio-economic baseline census information of pre-displaced persons;
- Identification and selection of impact indicators;
- Impact assessment through formal and informal surveys with the affected persons;
- Consultation with DPs, officials, community leaders for preparing review report;

- Assess the resettlement efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability, drawing lessons for future resettlement policy formulation and planning.

265. The following should be considered as the basis for indicators in monitoring and evaluation of the project: (i) socio-economic conditions of the DPs in the post-resettlement period; (ii) communication and reactions from DPs on entitlements, compensation, options, alternative developments and relocation timetables etc.; (iii) changes in housing and income levels; (iv) rehabilitation of informal settlers; (v) valuation of property; (vi) grievance procedures; (vii) disbursement of compensation; and (viii) level of satisfaction of DPs in the post resettlement period.

C. Reporting Requirements

266. **Internal Monitoring:** RIPP implementation support agency to prepare monthly reports on the progress of RIPP Implementation based on the field activities under the guidance of SDS and Field Coordinator, FREMAA. Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Non-technical), FREMAA with support from the Social Development Specialist, FREMAA and National Resettlement Specialist, PISC will review the monthly reports to assess the progress and results of RIPP implementation and adjust work programme where necessary, in case of delays or problems. Social Safeguard Specialist, FREMAA with support from International and National Resettlement Specialist, PISC will be responsible for preparation of quarterly progress report on RIPP implementation for submission to ADB and Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Non-technical), FREMAA will review the quarterly report and submit the same to ADB.

267. **External Monitoring:** The independent monitoring expert responsible for overall monitoring of the Project. The independent monitoring expert will also verify the internal monitoring report as prepared by the Executing agency. Expert will submit a semi-annual review directly to ADB and determine whether resettlement objectives have been achieved, more importantly whether livelihoods and living standards have been restored/ enhanced and suggest suitable recommendations for improvements. The external monitoring reports will be disclosed to the affected people and on FREMAA and ADB websites. Further, the monitoring reports will be discussed in meetings between the EA and ADB and necessarily follow-up actions will be undertaken on the problems and issues identified in the reports and follow-up discussions.