PORTFOLIO

1. CENTRAL ASIA-SOUTH ASIA (CASA) 1000 ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PROJECT (\$526.5M; REGIONAL SAR IDA: \$280M):

CASA-1000 will facilitate electricity trade of 1,300 megawatts (MW) of existing summertime hydropower surplus between the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan in Central Asia, and Afghanistan and Pakistan in South Asia. The project will generate valuable foreign exchange revenues for the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan, and alleviate electricity shortages in Afghanistan and Pakistan during the peak summer season. It will also help establish Afghanistan's role as a viable transit country.

2. INDIA MIZORAM ROADS II REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY PROJECT (US\$107M; REGIONAL IDA \$71.3M):

The project is designed to increase transport connectivity along regional trade corridors in Mizoram. With road transport being the only mode of transport within the state of Mizoram, improvements to the network will reduce freight and passenger transport costs, and provide quicker and safer access to all parts of the state and to neighboring states and countries (Bangladesh and Myanmar).

3. NEPAL-INDIA REGIONAL TRADE AND TRANSPORT PROJECT (US\$99M; REGIONAL IDA \$59.3 M):

The project seeks to facilitate efficient goods trade between Nepal and India by removing current policy, procedural, systems, and capacity and infrastructure constraints along the Kathmandu-Kolkata Corridor. The expected outcome as a result of project interventions is a reduction of transport time and logistics costs for Nepal's international trade.

4. NEPAL-INDIA ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION AND TRADE PROJECT (US\$138M; REGIONAL IDA \$66M):

The project supports construction of a high voltage electricity transmission line between Nepal and India, capable of transmitting up to 1,000 MW of power and paving the way to relieving Nepal's crippling power shortages and facilitating the development of Nepal's hydropower potential. To be completed in 2015, this Nepal-India interconnection will complement a 500 MW interconnection between India and Bangladesh and, together with existing and planned connectivity between Bhutan and India, will create part of the physical infrastructure for sub-regional power trade.

5. STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR WILDLIFE PROTECTION PROGRAM (PHASE 1:US\$39M & PHASE 2: US\$2.25M; REGIONAL IDA: \$27.5M):

The project assists participating governments in building shared capacity, institutions, knowledge and incentives to protect regional wildlife. Participating countries include Bangladesh and Nepal (Phase 1), and Bhutan (Phase 2).

PRIORITIES AHEAD

1. BANGLADESH-BHUTAN-INDIA REGIONAL TRADE AND TRANSPORT FACILITATION PROGRAM:

Several projects are envisioned under this program to facilitate inland waterways transport (IWT) along the Bangladesh-India Bilateral Protocol Route including IWT-land port-road-sea port interfaces and connectivity between Bangladesh, Bhutan, and India, as well as improvements to Chittagong Port. These interventions are expected to improve key multi-modal transport corridors and networks, facilitate trade with third countries, and promote sub-regional and regional trade.

2. SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL WEATHER AND CLIMATE SERVICES PROGRAM:

The proposed program will be implemented in a Series of Projects over a five to ten year period seeking to strengthen institutions, facilitate knowledge exchange and enhance cooperation with respect to hydrometeorological risks between South Asia countries. The approach would be to start from the bottom up and strengthen national capacity for weather and climate services which is required for sub-regional and regional level collaboration. The program's first phase is expected to include Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal, with other countries expected to follow in subsequent phases.

3. PAKISTAN-INDIA ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION AND TRADE:

The potential project will finance transmission interconnection infrastructure to facilitate the wheeling of 500 MW of electricity from India to Pakistan. This low cost extension of the transmission grid by about 20–30 km on each side would allow India to export about 200 MW of electricity within a 12–18 month period while a more costly sub-station on the Pakistan side—estimated to be constructed in 36 months—would allow export of the full 500+ MW. The Bank financed the pre-feasibility study.

4. PAKISTAN REGIONAL TRADE FACILITATION:

Potential project with the Asian Development Bank to improve transport connectivity and facilitate trade between Pakistan and its neighbors. The proposed project would seek to improve border management systems and infrastructure at the Wagah border post, the key land border post between Pakistan and India. The Bank's role may center on supporting key policy and procedural reforms.

5. NEPAL HYDROPOWER DEVELOPMENT:

IDA and IFC would be seeking to support at least one project with a total capacity of 500–1000 MW in the next few years. The World Bank Group is currently providing technical assistance to the Government of Nepal to facilitate fast investment decisions in additional hydropower capacity, and support long-term policy design and planning of hydropower development.

SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL INTEGRATION

PROJECT MAP





FEBRUARY 2015



