



Assam Inland Water Transport Project (P157929)

SOUTH ASIA | India | Transport Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2020 | Seq No: 10 | ARCHIVED on 29-Mar-2024 | ISR60140 |

Implementing Agencies: India, Transport Dept., Govt. of Assam, Dispur, Guwahati (Assam), India

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 13-Dec-2019

Effectiveness Date: 23-Mar-2020

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 10-Oct-2022

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 02-Sep-2022

Original Closing Date: 31-Dec-2024

Revised Closing Date: 31-Dec-2024

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The objectives of the Project are to: (a) improve passenger ferry infrastructure and service in Assam, and (b) improve the institutional capacity and framework for inland water transport in Assam

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components Table

Name

Institutional, regulatory and safety strengthening:(Cost \$20.00 M)

Fleet safety improvements and modernization:(Cost \$24.00 M)

Improvement in terminal infrastructure:(Cost \$54.00 M)

Project Management Support:(Cost \$8.25 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The project implementation has progressed well across all activities including civil works (commenced in December 2024) at four smaller terminals: North- Guwahati, Umananda, Neamati and Aphalamukh ferry terminals. A new fleet of 20 Catamaran vessels, 3 Tugboats and 3 Search and Rescue vessels are deployed for operations in Guwahati, Jorhat and Dhubri divisions to augment inland water transportation and passenger services in Assam. The night navigation system operational in Guwahati has been extended on the Neamati – Aphalamukh route as well in March 2024.

The Assam Inland Water Transport Regulatory Authority has adopted the National Inland Vessel Rules framed under the IV Act 2021 and published the Safety and Economic regulations. Training was provided to 2600 IWT staff and 1600 private vessel operators and 712 marine engines were provided under the Jibondinga incentive scheme to country boat operators, along with life buoys and life jackets, to enhance safety. Together with the infrastructure investments, it enables safe, efficient, and sustainable ferry operations and passenger services. The Assam Inland Waterway



Company Limited is operational ready and is expected to collaborate with experienced operators, lease vessels and terminals, and provide support services to expand inland water transport and river tourism network across the Assam state.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Macroeconomic	☐ Low	☐ Low	☐ Low
Sector Strategies and Policies	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Fiduciary	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Environment and Social	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Stakeholders	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Other	--	--	--
Overall	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Passenger Ferry Infrastructure and Services				
▶ Ferry service hours available in a day - on project supported ferry routes (Hours, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	10.00	15.00	15.00	16.00
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024
Comments:	Based on routes where night navigation has been implemented (Guwahati). Nigh navigation at Majuli was launched recently (March 10, 2024)			
▶ Percent women users of ferries during peak hours (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target



Value	About 25% of ferry users are Women and children (to be reassessed)	25.7%	27%	Expect greater than 30% women users
Date	30-Aug-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024
Comments:	The peak hour women users of ferry services is reported at 36.6% at Dhubri, 23.3% at Jorhat (earlier Dibrugarh), and 22.7% at Guwahati as per the data collected from e-ticketing platform over April, 2023 - February 15, 2024			
► User Satisfaction (on access, safety, quality of services, facilities etc) dis-aggregated by gender on project supported ferry routes (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	33.3% as per Baseline User Satisfaction report	34.2% as per 1st user satisfaction survey	59% as per 2nd user satisfaction survey (dis-aggregated: 60% satisfaction for women users)	More than 70% User satisfaction
Date	31-Jan-2020	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024
Comments:	The current results are basis the second user satisfaction survey results.			

Institutional Capacity and Framework				
► Regulation of IWT operations in Assam strengthened (Text, Custom, PBC)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	RA Established under new Act of State Legislative Assembly	Customization of new Assam IV Rules considering the Special Category Vessel and Non Mechanised Vessel in process (draft by end-Sep '23). Five separate Office Memorandums for ensuring safety in Inland Waterways in Assam issued by AIWTRA after wide public consultation. Draft economic regulations prepared and published on websites of AIWTRA and AIWTD Society for public consultation.	(a) Assam IWT Rules 2023 which includes regulations for Special Category Vessels and Non Mechanized Vessels prepared and submitted to the Government for approval on 23rd February 2023. The Rules are likely to be notified by 31st March 2024. (b) The Safety Rules and Regulations for IWT operations in Assam formulated and notified for implementation on 23rd August 2023. (c) The Assam IWT Economic Regulations 2023 formulated and notified for implementation on 6th February 2024.	AIWTRA has: (a) adopted and notified new Safety Regulations for the operation of passenger ferry services; and (b) adopted and notified new Economic Regulations for transparent and sustainable operation of passenger ferry services."
Date	30-Aug-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024



► Unbundling public sector operations from industry regulations (Text, Custom, PBC)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Internally conflicted institutional setup	Engagement of an asset valuation firm is underway. A draft Asset Devolution Plan (ADP) has been prepared. Transfer of fixed Assets shall be initiated after the finalization of ADP.	Asset valuation firm engaged. A preliminary 'Asset Devolution Plan' has been formulated in collaboration with DIWTA. DIWTA has issued an official communication on transfer of 190 floating assets to the AIWCL, effective 1st February 2024. Following this initial transfer, the remaining assets will be systematically identified and transferred in phases as outlined in the approved Asset Devolution Plan	The Transport Department has: (a) transferred all fixed assets identified in APC's asset devolution plan (primarily public ferry terminals) to the Assam Ports Company; and (b) transferred all floating/ movable assets identified in ASC's asset devolution plan (primarily public vessels) to the Assam Shipping Company."
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024
Comments:	Assam Inland Waterways Company Limited (AIWCL) was incorporated as a wholly-owned GoA company instead of Assam Shipping Company (ASC) and Assam Ports Company (APC) as an IWT operating company.			
► Enhanced IWT sector capacity on safety and modern technologies (Text, Custom, PBC)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Weak sector capacity. A comprehensive training plan under review by the Govt.	Total 1,040 staff from DIWTA and 409 private boat operators (~28%) were trained.	Total 1,047 staff from DIWTA and 549 private boat operators (~34%) were trained.	500 staff from DIWTA, ASC, ASP and / or private boat operators have been trained on best practices for navigation safety and modern technologies, with at least 20% of them being registered private boat operators
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024
Comments:	The reported figure includes training of each participant for minimum 16 hours.			
► Establishing an emergency response system including a search and rescue unit (Text, Custom, PBC)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No specific capacity exists	Draft concept note to develop an emergency response, search and	Concept note to develop an emergency response, search and	The ER&SAR has been made operational



		<p>rescue system/unit (ER&SAR) is under revision following WB's comments.</p> <p>The existing emergency response mechanism between DIWTA and State Disaster Management Agency (ASDM) alongwith SDRF is being revisited and would be modified as per the approved concept note for ER&SAR.</p>	<p>rescue system/unit (ER&SAR) 'has been prepared and cleared by the Bank in November 2023</p> <p>The existing emergency response mechanism between DIWTA and State Disaster Management Agency (ASDM) along with SDRF is being revisited and would be modified as per the approved concept note for ER&SAR by April 2024</p>	
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Institutional, regulatory and safety				
▶ Access to modern information (advance weather forecast, electronic charts, night navigation) to assist safer navigation (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Poor availability / access to information to assist navigation	<p>(i) At present, the night navigation mobile App is being used for ferry services in Guwahati. Trial run at Majuli completed and ready for launch. Some minor observations being incorporated for Dhubri following trials.</p> <p>(ii) Night navigation electronic charts prepared for nine ghats.</p> <p>(iii) Mechanism to intimate alerts from Central Control Unit (CCU) of DIWT Assam in advance is being devised whereby 4 hourly weather forecast information received daily from Indian Metrological Department (IMD), Borjha by CCU is being shared to all Sub Control Units of IWT Assam for necessary action.</p>	<p>(i) At present, the night navigation mobile App is being used for ferry services in Guwahati. Services at Majuli have been launched on 10th March, 2024. Trial run at Dhubri expected by end March 2024.</p> <p>(ii) Night navigation electronic charts prepared for nine ghats.</p> <p>(iii) The Central Control Unit of DIWT Assam used to receive 4 hourly weather forecast information on a daily basis from Indian Metrological Department (IMD), Borjhar. Subsequently, the information shared to all Sub Control Units of IWT Assam for necessary action</p>	Improved access to climate / weather information and night navigation support available on project supported routes



Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Jun-2024
► Adoption of Assam Water Transport Strategy (Text, Custom, PBC)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No Inland Water transport strategy available for Assam	Consultant to prepare the Water Transport Strategy is in the process of being engaged.	Consultant procurement completed, work to begin soon and the first draft is expected by July 2024	Transport Department has approved/adopted an Intra-State Water Transport Strategy
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	31-Oct-2023
► Percent complaints resolved of the total complaints received using the dedicated helpline number and internet-based communication tools to report sexual harassment and GBV issues (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No reporting mechanism exists specific to the sector	No complaints on sexual harassment or GBV reported However, between 19th February 2022 and 31st August 2023, 1,740 complaints received and all of those have been resolved.	No complaints on sexual harassment or GBV reported However, between 1st February 2022 and 29th February 2024, 1,625 complaints received (pertaining to e-ticketing, ghats, services) and all of those have been resolved.	At least 90 percent resolved out of total complaints received.
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024
Comments:	Complaints were received through helpline/ toll free number, email and website.			

Fleet Safety and Modernisation				
► New, modern and safer public vessels with gender inclusive design (Text, Custom, PBC)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Tender issued for procurement of new vessels	The second set of 10 Steel Catamaran Vessels with a capacity of 100 passengers and 6 LMV have been received and launched.	All 20 Steel Catamaran Vessels with a capacity of 100 passengers and 50 two-wheelers /6 LMVs have been received and commissioned. As verified by IVA, the crew deployed is in compliance with the Vessel Rules and Safety regulations of Government of Assam.	DIWTA or Assam Shipping Company, as the case may be, is operating the twenty (20) new vessels received from the shipyards, all of them with crew in compliance with Assam Vessel Rules and Safety Regulations"
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	31-Oct-2023



Comments:	The compliance matrix of all these vessels in accordance with The Assam Vessel Rules would be ensured.			
▶ Retrofitted/new, safer country boats for private sector supported under the “Jibondinga” incentive scheme (Text, Custom, PBC)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Old and unsafe private country boats	As on date, total 535 private sector country boats made safer and efficient, with 20 (~4%) to eligible women boat operators.	As on date, total 707 private country boats, including 21 (~3%) of women beneficiaries have been upgraded with marine engines and reversible gear box, making the safer and efficient	More than 200 private sector country boats made safer and efficient
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	31-May-2024

Terminal Improvement				
▶ Modern, floating and engineered ferry terminals with improved access and socially inclusive design (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	1.00	7.00
Date	31-May-2019	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	30-Dec-2024
Comments:	Terminal development at Guwahati Gateway Ghat is under progress (being readied for inauguration by May 2024), construction of 4 smaller terminals at North Guwahati, Umananda, Neamati and Aphalamuk has been initiated and design for two pilot community (floating) jetty have been sent to IIT Guwahati for vetting.			

Performance-Based Conditions

▶ PBC 1 Regulation of IWT operations in Assam strengthened (Text, Output, 11,000,000.00, 0.00%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	Target 4
Value	RA Established under new Act of State Legislative Assembly	Customization of new Assam IV Rules considering the Special Category Vessel and Non Mechanised Vessel in process (draft by end-Sep '23). Five separate Office Memorandums for ensuring safety in Inland Waterways in Assam	(a) Assam IWT Rules 2023 which includes regulations for Special Category Vessels and Non Mechanized Vessels prepared and submitted to the Government for approval on 23rd February 2023. The Rules will be Officially notified by 31st March 2024.	--



		issued by AIWTRA after wide public consultation. Draft economic regulations prepared and published on websites of AIWTRA and AIWTD Society for public consultation.	(b) The Safety Rules /Regulations for IWT operations in Assam were formulated /adopted and notified for implementation on 23rd August 2023. The Assam IWT Economic Regulations 2023 formulated /adopted and notified for implementation on 6th February 2024	
Date	--	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	--

►PBC 2 Enhanced IWT sector capacity on safety and modern technologies (Text, Output, 7,000,000.00, 0.00%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	Target 4
Value	Weak sector capacity. A comprehensive training plan under review by the Govt.	Total 1,040 staff from DIWTA and 409 private boat operators were trained.	Total 1,047 staff from DIWTA and 549 private boat operators (~34%) were trained.	--
Date	--	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	--

►PBC 3 Establishing an emergency response system including a search and rescue unit (Text, Output, 5,500,000.00, 0.00%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	Target 4
Value	No specific capacity exists	Draft concept note to develop an emergency response, search and rescue system/unit (ER&SAR) is under revision following WB's comments. The existing emergency response mechanism between DIWTA and State Disaster Management Agency (ASDM) along with SDRF is being revisited and would be modified as per the approved concept note for ER&SAR.	Concept note to develop an emergency response, search and rescue system/unit (ER&SAR) 'has been prepared and cleared by the Bank in November 2023 The existing emergency response mechanism between DIWTA and State Disaster Management Agency (ASDM) along with SDRF is being revisited and would be modified as per the approved concept note for ER&SAR by April 2024	--
Date	--	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	--



► PBC 4 Adoption of Assam Water Transport Strategy (Text, Intermediate Outcome, 3,000,000.00, 0.00%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	Target 4
Value	No Inland Water transport strategy available for Assam	Consultant to prepare the Water Transport Strategy is in the process of being engaged.	Consultant procurement completed, work to begin soon and the first draft is expected by July 2024	--
Date	--	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	--

► PBC 5 Unbundling public sector operations from industry regulations (Text, Intermediate Outcome, 12,000,000.00, 0.00%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	Target 4
Value	Internally conflicted institutional setup	Engagement of an asset valuation firm is underway. A draft Asset Devolution Plan (ADP) has been prepared. Transfer of fixed Assets shall be initiated after the finalization of ADP.	Asset valuation firm engaged. A preliminary 'Asset Devolution Plan' has been formulated in collaboration with DIWTA. DIWTA has issued an official communication on transfer of 190 floating assets to the AIWCL, effective 1st February 2024. Following this initial transfer, the remaining assets will be systematically identified and transferred in phases as outlined in the approved Asset Devolution Plan	--
Date	--	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	--

► PBC 6 New, modern and safer public vessels with gender inclusive design (Text, Output, 10,000,000.00, 0.00%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	Target 4
Value	Tender issued for procurement of new vessels	The second set of 10 Steel Catamaran Vessels with a capacity of 100 passengers and 6 LMV have been received and launched.	All 20 Steel Catamaran Vessels with a capacity of 100 passengers and 50 two-wheelers /6 LMVs have been received and commissioned. As verified by IVA, the crew deployed is in	--



			compliance with the Vessel Rules and Safety regulations of Government of Assam.	
Date	--	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	--

►PBC 7 Retrofitted/new, safer country boats for private sector supported under the “Jibondinga” incentive scheme (Text, Output, 4,500,000.00, 0.00%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	Target 4
Value	Old and unsafe private country boats	As on date, total 535 private sector country boats made safer and efficient, with 20 (~4%) to eligible women boat operators.	As on date, total 707 private country boats, including 21 (~3%) of women beneficiaries have been upgraded with marine engines and reversible gear box, making the safer and efficient	--
Date	--	27-Sep-2023	06-Mar-2024	--

Data on Financial Performance

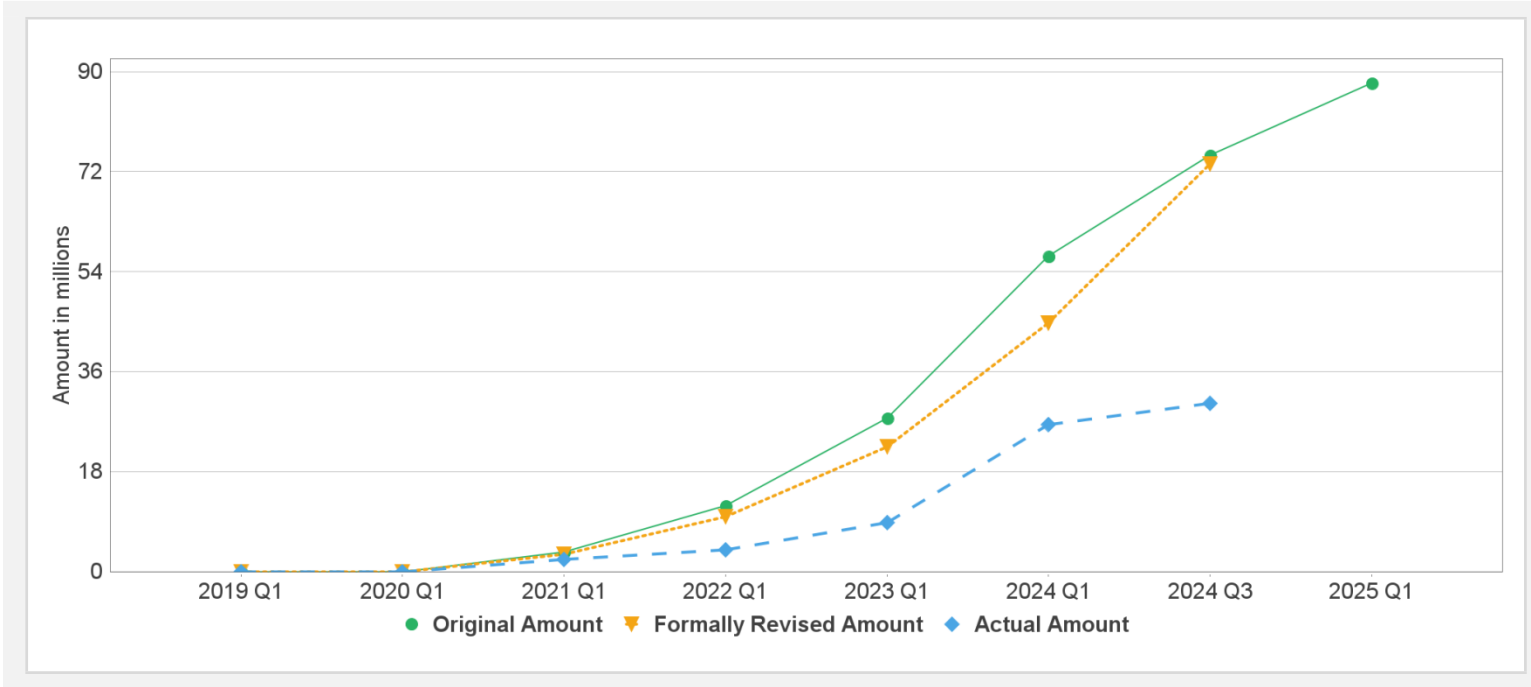
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P157929	IBRD-90260	Effective	USD	88.00	85.00	3.00	30.47	54.53	36%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P157929	IBRD-90260	Effective	13-Dec-2019	16-Jan-2020	23-Mar-2020	31-Dec-2024	31-Dec-2024

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 31-Mar-2021

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.