



People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Education
Secondary and Higher Education Division
Improving Computer and Software Engineering Tertiary Education Project

Quarterly Progress Report

(April 2025 - June 2025)

Improving Computer and Software Engineering
Tertiary Education Project



<https://icsetep.ugc.gov.bd>

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Annual Development Plan
BUET	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
CSE	Computer Science and Engineering
DPA	Direct Project Aid
DPP	Development Project Proposal
DU	University of Dhaka
EA	Executing Agency
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
FE	Foreign Exchange
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
ICSETEP	Improving Computer and Software Engineering Tertiary Education Project
IEE	Initial Environmental Evaluation
IT	Information Technology
IA	Implementing Agency
ITES	Information Technology Enabled Service
JUST	Jashore University of Science and Technology
MOE	Ministry of Education
PA	Project Aid
PAM	Project Administration Manual
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PMU	Project Management Unit
R&D	Research and Development
RDG	Research and Development Grant
RGM	Research Grant Mechanism
RPA	Reimbursable Project Aid
RPIS	Revised Project Implementation Schedule
SE	Software Engineering
SHED	Secondary and Higher Education Division
UGC	University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

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1. Introduction and Basic Data

1.1 Project Description

Bangladesh is a land of potential and its information technology (IT) as well as information technology enabled service (ITES) sector is growing rapidly. For this reason, Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), Software Engineering (SE), and Information Technology (IT) Programs is huge in Bangladesh. However, the number of skilled graduates is insufficient for the IT industries. In these circumstances, the government initiates a project in this field which is very relevant in the context of the country. Due to the importance of CSE/IT Programs, the implementation of a project in this area is crucial and the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) are financings project- “Improving Computer and Software Engineering Tertiary Education Project (ICSETEP)”. The sponsoring Ministry/ Division is Secondary and Higher Education Division (SHED), Ministry of Education. The University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh is the Implementing Agency (IA) for overall coordination of the project. The locations of the major components the project spread in three public universities as Project Implementation Units (PIUs): University of Dhaka (DU), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), and Jashore University of Science and Technology (JUST). According to Development Project Proposal (DPP), the date of commencement of the project is 1 March 2023 and the date of completion is 30 June 2028. However, the project started its journey in November 2023, and the revised closing date is December 2028.

The expected impact of the project is to develop a pool of highly skilled manpower equipped with modern technical and professional expertise. It is important to increase the number of graduates from the relevant degree programs industry. The expected outcome of the project also is to improve industry responsiveness of tertiary level CSE/IT education. This is expected to be achieved by establishing a more relevant higher education in CSE/IT programs in terms of quality, efficiency and equity through increasing job ready graduates and cutting-edge research capacity to meet the challenges of fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and develop technology entrepreneurship to lead the country in IT/ ITES sectors.

Under the UGC, the executing agency (EA) of ICSETEP, a Project Management Unit (PMU) has been established to ensure proper management and smooth implementation of the project. In addition, DU, BUET, and JUST, which are also the implementing agencies of the project, have set up a project implementation Unit (PIU) that will be responsible for implementing university- specific activities under the overall coordination of the PMU.

The PMU under UGC will take the responsibility of coordinating the implementation planning, monitoring, and reporting and support the university level implementation to ensure the project outcome and outputs are achieved within the project duration and budget, as approved by the government and ADB. Apart from overall project management responsibility, the PMU will facilitate (i) Consultancy supervision; (ii) Overseas training programs common to three universities and training programs that are open to other universities; (iii) Studies and Sub-contract; (iv) Development of the Digital Library of UGC; and (v) Management of R&D grant and stipend / scholarship that are open to all universities.

1.2 Main Project Data

This Asian Development Bank (ADB) financed project is implementing by the University Grants Commission (UGC). The main data of the project are as below:

Project Number	: 50140-002
Loan Number	: 4348 BAN
Project investment	: Total US\$114 Million
ADB Loan	: US\$100 Million
Loan effective date	: 24 December 2023
Loan closing date	: December 2028

1.3 Mode of Financing

The mode of ADB finance project is Project Aid (RPA) but counterpart fund is contributed by the government of Bangladesh. The financing mode and year wise distribution are shown below:

A. Mode of Financing with Source

Taka in Million					
Source/Mode	GOB(FE)	PA(RPA)	Own Fund (FE)	Others (Specify)	PA Source
1	2	3	4	5	6
Loan/Credit	-	10700.00 (9057.8)	-	-	ADB
Grant	1498.00	-	-	-	-
Equity	-	-	-	-	-
Others (Specification)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1498.00	10700.00 (9057.8)	-	-	-

B. Year wise Estimated Cost

Taka in Million						
Financial Year	GOB(FE)	PA		Own Fund (FE)	Others (Specify)	Total
		RPA	DPA			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2022-2023	17.324	96.667	30.792	-	-	144.782
2023-2024	2,97.362	17,97.904	3,30.492	-	-	24,25.758
2024-2025	4,89.821	29,86.571	3,28.440	-	-	38,04.832
2025-2026	3,01.687	18,24.503	3,28.440	-	-	24,54.630
2026-2027	2,38.290	14,35.106	3,28.440	-	-	20,01.836
2027-2028	1,53.516	9,17.050	2,95.596	-	-	13,66.162
Grand Total:	14,98.00	90,57.80	1642.20	-	-	121,98.00

1.4 Quarterly Progress

The project was approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) on 18 April 2023 and became effective on 24 December 2023. Implementation commenced following the appointment of the Project Director (PD) on 19 November 2023. The project is now in implementation phase. According to the Project Administration Manual (PAM), quarterly reports should be submitted to the ADB in a regular way. Two reports have been submitted, covering progress up to March 2025. This report covers the second quarter of 2025, from April to June 2025.

This Quarterly progress report mainly summarizes the implementation status of various components of the project which includes procurement, contract and project management, finance, environment, and compliance with loan covenants.

2. Utilization of Funds/Financial Progress

In this Financial Year 2024-2025 a total of 9,83.00 million BDT was allocated for implementing various components of the project. The step has been taken to expedite the implementation progress, but the payment is yet to be started in full swing. Against the allocation of 9,83.00 million has been spent up to the reporting month June- 2025.

2.1 RADP Allocation of 2024-2025 and financial Progress of Q2:

The following table shows the financial progress up to June – 2025. PUM & PIU wise RADP allocation and progress up to June 2025 are shown below:

Allocation	Taka in Million		
	Total	GOB	RPA
RADP Allocation FY-2024-2025	1,157.90	1,74.90	9,83.00
Progress July-2024 to June 2025	41.70	12.75	28.95
Progress in %	3.60%	7.29%	2.95%

Total allocation for Revised Annual Development Program (RADP) of the 2024 -2025 FY was TK1157.90 million. In this allocation GoB was TK 174.90 million and 983.00 million was as RPA. The total expenditure in the reporting quarter was Tk 41.70 million (GoB -TK 12.75 million and RPA TK 28.95 million).

From the initiation of this project, a total of Tk 536.67 million was received, where Tk 177.47 million from GoB and Tk 359.20 million from ADB as RPA. Against the total receipt, the cumulative expenditures were Tk 12.75 million and Tk 41.70 million for GoB and RPA, respectively.

The total expenditure up to June 2025 is shown in the following table:

Taka in Million

Items	Up to June, 2025		Cumulative from Initiation		Total
	GoB	RPA	GoB	RPA	
Receipts/Disbursement	177.47	359.20	177.47	359.20	536.67
Expenditure	12.75	28.95	12.75	28.95	41.70
Progress in %	8.65%	8.06%	8.65%	8.06%	8.26%

2.2 RADP Allocation and Progress up to March 2025:

The project is implementing by PMU and 3 PIU established in Dhaka university (DU), Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) and Jashore university of Science & Technology (JUST). The allocation and expenditure are shown below:

Taka in Million

	Total	GOB	RPA
RADP Allocation (FY 2024-2025)	1,157.90	174.90	983.00
PMU	713.92	152.51	561.41
DU	261.87	2.40	259.47
BUET	142.70	16.74	125.96
JUST	39.41	3.25	36.16
Total Progress Up to June 2025			
PMU	37.82	11.20	26.62
DU	0.49	0.17	0.32
BUET	0.55	0.05	0.50
JUST	2.84	1.33	1.51
Total Progress	41.70	12.75	28.95
Progress in %	3.60%	7.29%	2.95%

It looks like the financial progress of RPA up to June 2025 is Tk 41.70 million, which is a part of the total disbursement of Tk 1157.90 million. The expenditures by different institutions are as follows:

- JUST: Tk 2.84 million
- DU: Tk 0.49 million
- BUET: Tk 0.55 million

The financial progress linked with the procurement-related activities. PMU and PIUs have initiated steps for procurement of various components which are expediting the implementation of the project.

3. Implementation Status of ICSETEP

The overall objective of the project is to improve socio-economic condition of Bangladesh by introducing more relevant higher education in CSE/IT programs in terms of quality, efficiency and equity through increasing job ready graduates and cutting-edge research capacity of the students to meet the challenges of fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and develop technology entrepreneurship to lead the country in IT/ITES sectors. The outcomes of the project are:

- (a) Industry responsiveness of tertiary level CSE/IT education improved.
- (b) Increased utilization of information and communication technology to enhance labor markets, and
- (c) Improving industry relevance and quality of CES/IT programs at higher education.

The project task has been identified as Output and there are several important outputs are

3.1 Output 1 - Modern learning, research and startup supporting environment established

Establishing modern learning, research and startup facilities in BUET, DU and JUST are the vital components of the project. The project supports establishing a building in each of the three universities to create modern educational facilities and space for research and to create sustainable Startup-Innovation supporting facilities. Progress in setting up the physical facility in 3 universities are discussed below:

Output 1.3 - Preparation of operations manual for startup facilities and services

Creating startup and innovation culture in the 3 universities is another vital task under the project. For smooth and effective operation of the startup activity, required a guideline/ Operational Manual. So, the project has taken the initiative to appoint a consultant (Stipend Program Specialist) to formulate incubation operation related guidelines. The appointment process has been initiated and hopefully consultants will be onboard On 18 May 2025. A short-term consultant has engaged to formulate an Incubation Policy.

Output: 1.4 - Procurement of Computer, Laptops, Furniture, Equipment, IT equipment for DU, BUET, and JUST

All the 3 universities PIU as well PMU need computers, laptop, furniture and other necessary equipment and those are duly included in the procurement plan. Some computers, laptops and furniture have been procured for PMU and 3 PIUs as well as. But most of the procurement is related to learning, research and startup building will be procured after progressing the construction work.

3.2 Output 2 - Quality and industry relevance of computer science and engineering, software engineering and information technology programs enhance

By introducing new or upgrading existing degree programs, DU, BUET, and JUST are taking significant steps towards achieving their project objectives. Incorporating the latest technology and global academic and industry practices will certainly help in making these

programs meet international standards. This approach will likely enhance the quality of education and better prepare students for the global job market.

The university will be provided with the following inputs to facilitate the upgradation process

- (a) Interaction with Industry.
- (b) CSE/IT curriculum expert.
- (c) Visiting Professors.

To ensure the quality program the following activities has been included in the program:

- (i) Introduction of Online open Courseware.
- (ii) Strengthening UGC Digital Library.
- (iii) International accreditation.
- (iv) Increase in faculty member.
- (v) Long term training for faculty members.
- (vi) Short term training for faculty members and support staff.
- (vii) Upgrading and expanding training programs for IT Professional.
- (viii) Strengthening student and industry relations services.
- (ix) Mandatory industry attachment programs for undergraduates.
- (x) Undergraduate scholarships/stipends to female and poor students.
- (xi) Support for female employment promotion.

Several consultants are provisioned to ensure the proper & smooth implementation of the project objectives. The project appointed an Industry Relation Expert on 01 August 2024 to take care of strengthening the link between student and Industry. To build an academia – industry relationship, the internship program is going to launch for the CSE students. Several meetings & focused group discussions (FGD), and visits were organized with the various IT firms including Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS), Bangladesh Association of Contact Center and Outsourcing (BACCO). Based on consultation with the private firms and organizations a draft MoU was prepared and shared with ADB. ADB has provided its comments on the drat MoU. Two workshops on student involvement in the internship and other programs carried out under ICSETEP were organized at BUET and JUST. Moreover, the workshop & seminar plan was finalized to ensure involvement of teachers, students and industry in this program. A draft Internship Guidelines has been formulated and stakeholder consultations on the guidelines are going to be organized. Specification of MIS of Research Grant, Stipend and Internship monitoring software have been prepared and procuring process will start soon.

The project formulated a Guideline/policy for the Scholarship program. JUST accepted/approved the Guideline but DU & BUET have some observation. The project is also working to finalize the guidelines regarding scholarship program with DU and BUET. The JUST has invited application from the student for the stipend and scholarship program. The BUET is also received 26 project proposals under Incubation program.

The project has ensured the appointment of consultants such as Procurement Specialist, Financial Management Specialist, Industry Relation Specialist, Higher Education Specialist, Women IT Leadership Specialist, Gender Specialist, Stipend Program Specialist, Environmental Specialist and some sort term specialist has been onboarded.

Output 2.6b - Conferences, seminars, job fairs etc.

Stakeholder consultation, Conference, Seminars, Job fairs are designed to make awareness of the stakeholder such as students, faculties, industry people to achieve the objective of the project. In this reporting year, on May 31, 2025, JUST hosted a workshop titled “Curriculum Development for Outcome-Based Education: A Pathway to BAETE Accreditation (Washington Accord)”, bringing focus to international standards in engineering education. Organized seminars and workshops at DU, BUET, JUST and organized a programming contest at JUST on 25 -26 May 2025 at JUST. Total 59 teams participated in the contest and 23 teams were selected for final round. A presentation session was organized on the development of daycare, women’s & special person facilities at the building was organized at BUET and JUST on 08 April, 2025 and 21 May & 04 June 2025 respectively. Workshops on GESI Action Plan orientation were organized at DU BUET and JUST on 24 July, 25 July, 29 July 2025 respectively.

3.3 Output 3-Research and development and technology entrepreneurship strengthened

This project is also providing support to increase the value of the addition of CSE/IT degree program for IT/ITES industry by fostering innovation and increasing technology enabled entrepreneurs. To achieve these objectives the following key assignments are undertaken in the project:

- a. Competitive R&D grants scheme.
- b. Startup or Incubation support services.
- c. Postgraduate Stipend Program.
- d. Software and Technology Competitions.

An operational manual for the Research and Development Grant was developed by the PMU, and a workshop was organized on June 27, 2024. After finalizing the operational manual, it was sent to SHED and MOE on October 22, 2024. However, the authority suggested revising the manual. The PMU has made significant efforts in revision of the operational manual. Now, the approval process is pending.

3.4 The output wary progress of the project is discussed below:

Output	Description	Implementation Status	Remarks
1	Modern Learning, research and startup facility establishment	DU: A building is being constructed in DU for modern learning, research and startup facilities. A Design firm was appointed by the PIU Dhaka University to prepare Architectural and Structural design. A bid was published on 26 November 2024 in newspaper along with the e-GP by following all procurement related regulations. The bid was opened on 16 January 2025 and evaluation is ongoing.	Expecting evaluation will be completed by July 2025.
		BUET: Land selection has been finalized for construction of the modern learning,	

Output	Description	Implementation Status	Remarks
		research and startup facilities. Currently, the BUET has engaged a design firm for the preparation of the architectural and structural design of the learning, research and startup Building. Hopefully, the bid document with all architectural and structural design & BOQ for the construction will submitted by the firm by end of August and bid will be published in September 2025	
		JUST: A Design Firm has been appointed to prepare the architectural and structural design of the building for learning, research and startup facilities which will be called "IT Excellence Centre". The appointed firm has completed the Architectural Design and now working to finalize the Structural Design with a target to publish bid by August 2025.	
	Output 1.3 - Preparation of operations manual for startup facilities and services	Creating startup and innovation culture in the 3 universities is another vital task under the project. For smooth and effective operation of the startup activity, required a guideline/ Operational Manual. So, the project has taken the initiative to appoint a consultant (Stipend Program Specialist) to formulate incubation operation related guideline.. The appointment process has been initiated and hopefully consultant will be onboard by June 2025. It is mentionable that separate Operational Manual will be used by each university. A short term consultant has engaged to formulate a Incubation Policy.	
2	Quality and Industry relevance of CSE/IT Program		
(i)	Developing new or upgrading existing degree program	DU:	
		BUET:	
	(a) Interaction with Industry	JUST PMU: Conducted meetings with BASIS, BACCO, and many Firms regarding industry-collaboration, training and internship programs. Draft MoU has been signed with 3 firms.	

Output	Description	Implementation Status	Remarks
	b. CSE/IT curriculum expert		
	(c) Visiting Professor	PMU: A draft guideline has been prepared and has gone through internal reviews. The guidelines will be shared with stakeholders for feedback to finalized in the next quarter.	
(ii)	Introduction of Online Open Courseware	PMU: A meeting regarding Open Courseware Operational Policy was held at the UGC in May. Implementation modality will be decided based on further exploration in the next quarter.	
(iii)	Strengthening UGC Digital Library	-	
(iv)	International Accreditation	PMU: On May 31, 2025, JUST hosted a workshop titled <i>“Curriculum Development for Outcome-Based Education: A Pathway to BAETE Accreditation (Washington Accord)”</i> , bringing focus to international standards in engineering education. The CSE department of JUST will commence preparations for BAETE accreditation starting from next quarter. To foster alignment and shared learning, outreach to DU IIT and BUET CSE is also in plan, aiming to understand their progress and strategies in accreditation planning.	
(v)	Increase faculty member	Recently, collected (2025) data on faculty members of the DU, BUET and JUST and analyzed the challenges regarding the increase female member in CSE Dept.	Achieving the target seems challenging due to the merit-based appointment of faculty members, which limits the scope for intervention.
(vi)	Long-term training for faculty members	DU BUET JUST	Initiatives have been launched to enhance the skills of IT professionals, staff, and faculty members through
(vii)	Short-term training for faculty members and support staff	DU BUET JUST	
(viii)		DU	

Output	Description	Implementation Status	Remarks
	Upgrading and expanding training Programs for IT Professionals	BUET DU	targeted training programs
(ix)	Strengthening students and Industry relation services	Organized seminars and workshops at DU, BUET, JUST and a programming contest at JUST A draft internship guideline has been prepared and is currently under review at the UGC.	
(x)	Mandatory industry attachment program for Undergraduates	A draft internship guideline has been prepared and is currently under review at the UGC.	
(xi)	Support for female employment promotion	Collected information/data of the women participation at IT Companies located at various Hi-Tech Park/ Software Technology Park with an aim to formulate the strategy Preparing a draft TORs for selecting technology company to support female employment.	
03	R & D and Technology Entrepreneurship Strengthened	Several meetings with private companies to explore their interest on R&D collaboration with university.	
a	Competitive R&D grants Scheme	Several meetings were held to update R&D Grants Operations Manual in this quarter. The manual will be finalized in the next quarter. Also, stakeholder workshops on disseminating the R&D Grants scheme are planned for the next quarter.	
b	Startup or incubation support services		
c	PhD Fellowship program	DU & BUET: Both universities has submitted their revised proposal for Fellowship, scholarship and stipend program.	
	Postgraduate Stipend (Scholarship) Program		
	Undergraduate Scholarship Program		
	Female student Stipend Program		
d	Incubation Program	BUET: "The Incubation Policy has been finalized and BUET has received 26	

Output	Description	Implementation Status	Remarks
		business proposals from interested teams. A five-member jury board, comprising of seasoned experienced in the startup and innovation ecosystem and business, has been formed for the selection process. On 11 July 2025, 23 teams delivered their project presentations to the jury. DU & JUST: DU: "The draft guideline for the Incubation Program is going to be developed.	
e	Software and Technology Competition	Organized a programming contest on 25 - 26 May 2025 in JUST. Total 59 teams were participating contest, and 23 teams were selected for the final round.	
04	Project Management Capacity increased		
05	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) Action Plan	A presentation on the development of daycare, women's & special person facilities at the design of building was organized at BUET and JUST on 08 April, 2025 and 21 May & 04 June 2025 respectively. Workshops on GESI Action Plan orientation were organized at DU BUET and JUST on 24 July, 25 July, 29 July 2025 respectively.	
06	Environmental Inclusion (GESI) Action Plan	Initiative has been taken to ensure the Environmental Safeguard in implementation of component works under the project.	

4. Project Purpose

The project is to create an effective learning environment for the CSE students of DU, BUET and JUST. Other universities could be part of the program through getting Research Grant. This project will support scaling up the quality education and research activities in universities and create a sustainable innovation and startup culture in Bangladesh.

4.1 Status of Project Scope/Implementation Arrangements

There is no change in scope at this stage, but in the future, the scope may be adjusted as some components appear challenging to implement. The status of implementation arrangements is in accordance with those proposed in RPIS.

4.2 Likelihood of Achievement of the Project Outcomes and Remedial Measures

See Appendix 1: Design and Monitoring Framework (DMF)

4.3 Changes to the Key Assumption and Risks

See Appendix 1: DMF

5. ICSETEP Procurement Status:

According to the Development Project Proposal (DPP), the project was scheduled to commence on March 1, 2023, and be completed by June 30, 2028. However, the project officially began in November 2023, and the revised completion date is now December 31, 2028. Consequently, the Project Management Unit (PMU), in consultation with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), revised the project implementation schedule (Appendix-2). The Project Management Unit (PMU) is going to be fully staffed, and all the staff of the Project Implementation Units (PIUs) have been assigned duties to implement the project. There is a significant challenge as officials are working in PIUs with additional responsibilities. Ensuring effective coordination and management will be crucial to overcoming these challenges and successfully implementing the project.

5.1 Procurement

In this project some of the items are being purchased by the Project Management Unit (PMU) and some items by the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at DU, BUET and JUST. Up to the reporting period (April to June-2025) procurement of 23 contracts (7 Goods, 3 Non consulting Service, 12 Services and 01 Works packages) have been completed and procurement of 01 work, 1 Service and 4 Goods packages are under evaluation stage.

Additionally, the PIU of DU has taken initiative to procure a Construction Firm to construct a Building for learning, research and Startup facilities. The Bid has already been received, and evaluation is ongoing. PIU of JUST has initiated the procurement process of 3 goods packages which are all in the evaluation stage.

5.2 Package-wise status:

The procurement status up to June 2025 is stated below:

SN	Package	Description	Invitation of tender	Contract Signed date	Contract Completion date	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	8
1	PMU/G-2	Procurement of Computer & Accessories for PMU	21May-24	27-Aug-24	26-Sep-24	Completed
2		Procurement of Office equipment for PMU				

2.1	PMU/G-3A (Lot1, Lot2)	Lot 1 (Projector, Photocopier, Television, Telephone (Smart Phone))		27-Aug-24	26-Sep-24	Comple ted
2.3		Lot 2 (Air Conditioner, Fridge)		27-Aug-24	26-Sep-24	Comple ted
1	BUET/G-4	Procurement of Furniture for PIU, BUET (BUET/G-1)	15-Dec-24	9-Apr-25	9-May-25	Comple ted
2	BUET/G-6	Procurement of CSE lab equipment and establishment of 24 labs at BUET (Lot 2) – Part 1 (6 Labs) C1: Scanner	13-Feb-25	-	-	Under Evaluat ion
1	JUST/G-3	Procurement of Office Equipment for PIU, JUST	24-Mar-25	-	-	Under Evaluat ion
2	JUST/G-4	Procurement of Furniture for PIU, JUST	6-Feb-25	-	-	Under Evaluat ion
3	JUST/G-2	Procurement of Laptops for Needy Students	24-Mar-25	-	-	Under Evaluat ion
1	PMU/W-1	PMU office renovation works	11-Dec-24	13-Apr-25	18-Jul-25	Implem entatio n ongoin g

1	DU/W-1	Construction of 13 Storied Building with 15 Storied Foundation including Sanitary, Water Supply, Electro-Mechanical Works, Computer Network Cabling, etc. for IT HRD Hub of Dhaka University	26-Nov-24	-	-	Under Evaluation
1	PMU/NCS-1(NCS-1, Lot 1)	Hiring of Cross-Country Vehicle (4 WD) for PMU at UGC	21-May-24	21-Aug-24	30-Jun-28	Completed
2	PMU/NCS-2 (NCS-1, Lot 2)	Hiring of Vehicle (Microbus) for PMU at UGC	5-Dec-24	17-Feb-25	31-Dec-27	Completed
3	PMU/NCS-3	Outsourcing of Support Staff for PMU, UGC	27-Mar-25	29-Aug-24	30-Jun-28	Completed
1	PMU/S-1	Senior Procurement Specialist	28-Dec-23	19-Aug-24	18-Aug-27	Completed
2	PMU/S-2	Procurement Specialist	17-Aug-24	23-Mar-25	20-May-27	Completed
3	PMU/S-3	Financial Management Specialist	28-Dec-23	22-Aug-24	30-Jun-28	Completed
4	PMU/S-4	Gender Specialist	5-Feb-25	30-Apr-25	30-Apr-25	Completed
5	PMU/S-5	Higher Education Specialist	15-Aug-24	7-May-25		Completed
6	PMU/S-6	Environment Specialist	28-Dec-23	12-Feb-25	3-Jan-27	Completed
7	PMU/S-7	Stipend Program Specialist		18-May-25		Completed
8	PMU/S-8	Women IT Leadership Specialist	15-Aug-23	30-Dec-24	20-Nov-26	Completed
9	PMU/S-9	Industry Relations Expert	28-Dec-25	1-Aug-24	30-Sep-25	Completed

10	PMU/S-10	Pool of Short-Term Consultants (National)				-
10.1	STC-01	Research Grant Review Expert)	8-Jan-24			Completed
10.2	STC-02	Startup/Incubation Policy Development (Package No.: PMU/S-10, STC-02).	8-Jan-24	6-Feb-25	0-Jan-00	Completed
10.3	STC-03	Short-Term Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant under PMU	8-Jan-24	5-Jul-25		Completed
1	DU/S-1	Consultancy Services for Supervision of Construction Works under DU	1-Jan-25			EOI Under Evaluation

5.3 Total Contract awards and Contract price:

Indicators	No of Contract	Taka in Million	USD in Million
Goods	7	6,829,135.35	0.06
Works	1	7,725,616.54	0.07
Service	12	112,585,850.00	1.05
Non-Consulting Services	3	19,081,993.70	0.18
Total	23	146,222,595.59	1.37

The above table shows that total contract awards as of June-2025 were 23 which involve Tk 146,222,595.59 million (USD)1.37 million). The PMU has taken initiatives to complete the procuring process to expedite the implementation process.

6. Compliance with Covenants

6.1 Environmental Management

The construction of three multi-storied buildings at Dhaka University Campus, BUET Campus, and JUST Campus will incorporate green building features to enhance energy and water efficiency, ensure climate & disaster resilience. The contractors, under the guidance of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and the Supervision Consultant, will ensure that the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the project and all associated facilities comply with the following standards:

- Borrower's laws and regulations in environment, health and safety to the workers.
- ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement; and
- Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE), and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

As the design of multi-storied building at Dhaka University has been completed and evaluation of tender is in progress. It is decided that all the required EMP component and monitoring component will be incorporated in the contract document before award of contract to the appointing contractor. For the remaining two buildings in BUET and JUST the design is in progress. All the required environmental components will be incorporated in the bid document, contract document and design drawing.

PIU of DU is ensured to replace the existing staff before demolishing the existing tin shed structures at the proposed construction site at DU. There were two private graveyards at proposed building site at BUET. In the meantime, those two graveyards are already shifted to the other suitable place in the same campus following ritual procedures and mutual agreement with the relatives of buried deceased.

6.2 Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) Action Plan

To ensure GESI responsive infrastructure for the expanded CSE/IT programs in three universities, necessary communication and discussion were held. For DU, the draft RFP DU/S-1: Consultancy Services for Supervision of Construction Works, tender for construction of two basements and a 13-story green and smart building, and amendments to the General Conditions of Contract were reviewed from a GESI perspective.

Women-friendly facilities based on gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) considerations were included under the paragraph on IT HR Building of DU in the Terms of Reference. If these are not clearly identified, there is a higher possibility of missing them during implementation, monitoring, and reporting. Suggestions were included to incorporate progress on GESI responsive facilities under Major Tasks: Reporting and Documenting Project Progress Activities. Quarterly updates on GESI compliance issues can help understand the overall progress and initiatives taken to make facilities women-friendly and GESI responsive. Both monitoring and reporting paragraphs included GESI considerations.

Architectural designs of JUST were reviewed from a GESI perspective twice. On 21st May 2025, Sheltech Ltd. and JUST representatives at UGC were provided suggestions to ensure Women-Friendly/GESI responsive Facilities as per ADB recommendation. Suggestions included day care facilities, adequate sanitation facilities for women and people with disabilities, and inclusive study areas. Day care facilities and sanitation facilities for people with disabilities were not included in the initial design. In the final meeting on 4th June 2025, recommendations were provided to ensure washroom facilities for girls, boys, and caregivers inside the day care, ample space for children, security features, sanitation facilities for women and men in the gallery, and wheelchair-accessible entry points in classrooms, galleries, study areas, labs, etc.

Before joining the Gender Specialist, the architectural design of BUET was finalized. However, in the GESI Action Plan Orientation Workshop at BUET on 24th June 2025, the PIU Head was requested to involve the Gender Specialist with the architectural firm representatives for a GESI review of the design.

To raise awareness among PIUs, PCCs, and faculty members of BUET, DU, and JUST about the GESI Action Plan of ICSETEP project, the Gender Specialist conducted three Orientation Workshops with support from PMU at BUET, DU, and JUST on 24, 25, and 29

June 2025. Participants gained an understanding of activities, specific targets and indicators, timeframe, responsible agencies, and basic topics on Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) related issues. A total of 50 faculties (5 women) attended the workshops, which helped PIU members understand specific indicators and good practices for achieving desired targets.

An Excel file with three sheets was developed for collecting sex-disaggregated data on enrollment and completion in undergrad and postgrad levels and shared with three PIUs. PIU Head and Deputy PIU Head were communicated to support data collection from admin, register, and exam control office. This data will be used to understand the completion status in BSc, MSc, MPhil, and PhD levels of women students and whether targets 4-6 and 13 can be achieved without deviation. To understand the employment status of former alumnae (graduated from 2020 to 2025), an Excel sheet with sex-disaggregated data was developed and shared with PIUs. Unfortunately, PIUs could not provide this information due to the lack of a specific database, human and financial resources, and central social media or physical groups to communicate with alumnae and track their employment data.

The project must comply with all the conditions stated in the GIES. The Women IT Leadership Specialist has been onboard on 1 January 2025. An advertisement was published on 05 February 2025 for appointing a Gender Specialist. The Gender Specialist will be responsible for Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Action Plan of ICSETEP. Moreover, the Gender Specialist and Women IT Leader Specialist will be responsible to draft sub-activities under every activity included in the outputs of GESI Action Plan and will take necessary steps accordingly to achieve the targets (**Annexure 03**).

6.3 Design and Monitoring Framework

The project performance, the performance of each university will be reviewed against indicators set in the PAM. The DMF is given in the **Appendix 1**

6.4 Status of Compliance with Loan Covenants

Loan covenants—policy, financial, economic, environmental, and others—will be monitored through the semi-annual progress reports every year. The status of compliance with loan covenants is given in **Appendix 4**.

7. Major Project Issues and Challenges

The project was supposed to commence on 1 March 2023 but due to various reasons implementation started after joining the Project Director on 19 November 2023. Due to delay deploying manpower caused a delay in the kickoff of the project. During implementation of the project, several challenges being observed. The main challenges are as follows:

- (a) **Lack of dedicated full-time personnel:** There are three separate Project Implementation Units (PIUs) for Dhaka University (DU), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), and Jashore University of Science and Technology (JUST). Approximately 75% of the total allocation will be spent under the supervision of these PIUs at universities. However, there is no dedicated full-time Project Director (PD) or staff for these PIUs to support the PD. The responsibilities of the PIU heads and other staff in the project is additional duty besides their main responsibility. They are not receiving any monetary incentives for performing these

additional duties. The additional duties are not compensated with any monetary incentives which are negatively affecting their interest in working in this project.

- (b) **Inconsistent demands for building construction:** Approximately 40% of the total allocation has been allocated to build three multi-storied buildings in the three universities. However, the demands regarding the building shape and size are not similar across the PIUs. This inconsistency in demand is creating delays.
- (c) **Inconsistent allocation:** It has been observed that some items have been allocated excess resources, while others have not received sufficient allocation. Moreover, incubation is a vital component of the project, but there is no specific allocation for various tasks related to the incubation journey, such as product and business development. Additionally, the DPP has provisioned to engage international firms for entrepreneurial training and surveys. However, for faster implementation, the procurement method should be changed to national consultants instead of international ones, and the total amount needs to be segregated into various relevant items."
- (d) **Unfinalized digital library demand and review delays:** The demand for the digital library of the University Grants Commission (UGC) has yet to be finalized. Additionally, the review of the approved Research and Development Grant (RDG) operation manual is causing delays in implementation.

8. Work Planned for Next Stage

Due to the delay commencement of the project the PMU has revised the project implementation schedule in consultation with ADB to speed up the project. The PMU is taking necessary steps to speed up the implementation with an aim of implementing the project within stipulated timeframe.

Design and Monitoring Framework (DMF)

Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Baseline	Achievement as of December 2024	Comment
Outcome Industry responsiveness of tertiary level CSE/IT education improved	By 2029 for all indicators: a. At least 40% of graduates (both men and women) with bachelor's degrees from the three universities are employed within 6 months of <i>graduation</i> ^b	a. 2018 baseline: 28.1%, male 28.2% and female 27.8%) (OP 2.2	a. An Industry Relation Expert, Higher Education Specialist, IT Leadership Specialist has on-board. b. Initiative such as appointment of visiting professor, accreditation, fellowship-stipend, internship have been initiated to achieve the objective	This indicator will be measured at the end of the project.
	b. CSE/IT programs in the three universities obtained accreditation aligned with international standards	b. 2022 baseline: N/A	On May 31,2025, JUST hosted a workshop titled “ <i>Curriculum Development for Outcome-Based Education: A Pathway to BAETE Accreditation (Washington Accord)</i> ”, bringing focus to international standards in engineering education. Building on this momentum, the CSE department of JUST will commence preparations for BAETE accreditation starting from next quarter. To foster alignment and shared learning, outreach to DU IIT and BUET CSE is also in plan, aiming to understand their progress and strategies in accreditation planning.	
	c. At least eight startups have begun generating revenues	c. 2022 baseline: N/A	A Incubation Policy have been formulated for BUET. BUET has been invited project proposal for selecting startup company under Incubation Program.	Will be measured at the end of the project

			<p>Formulation of the incubation Policy/guideline is under process.</p>	
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1.Modern learning, research, and startup facilities established</p> <p>2.Quality and industry relevance of CSE/IT programs enhanced</p>	<p>By 2026 for all indicators:</p> <p>1a. Classrooms, laboratories, and research spaces for expanded CSE/IT programs, including women-friendly facilities, established in three universities^c</p> <p>1b. Facilities for startup companies established in three universities</p> <p>By 2028 for all indicators: 2a. At least 2,200 undergraduate and graduate students (25% women) completed CSE/IT programs in three universities^b</p> <p>2b. At least four new or updated undergraduate degree curricula for outcome-based education and blended learning implemented with industry participation in three universities</p> <p>2c. At least 75 subjects of the CSE/IT undergraduate program made accessible as open courseware</p> <p>2d. Faculty members increased to at least 200 (at least 35% with doctorates and 20% women), with at least 75% trained in modern pedagogical approaches</p> <p>2e. At least 80% of graduates from the three universities (both men and women) and at least 300 students (at least 50% women) from other universities completed internships or industry-collaboration capstone projects</p>	<p>1a. (2022 baseline: N/A) (OP 2.4.1)</p> <p>1b. (2022 baseline: 0) (OP 1.2.2)</p> <p>2a. (2022 baseline: 480 students, 17.1% women) (OP 1.1, OP 1.1.1, OP 2.2.1)</p> <p>2b. (2022 baseline: 0)</p> <p>2c. (2022 baseline: 0)</p> <p>2d. (2022 baseline: 107, 38.3% with doctorates, and 13.1% women) (OP 2.1)</p> <p>2e.(2022 baseline: 8.3% of graduates [2.8% among women]) (OP 2.1.1)</p>	<p>1.a & 1b Bid received for construction of the building at the DU and evaluation is ongoing.</p> <p>All architectural and Structural Design for the Modern learning , research and startup facilities at JUST will be available by August 2025.</p> <p>For BUET, the consulting firm will submit architectural design by July and structural design by September, 2025.</p> <p>2 b Relevant Consultant appointment is on progress. A meeting regarding Open Courseware Operational Policy was held at the UGC in May.</p> <p>Implementation modality will be decided based on further exploration in the next quarter.</p> <p>2d. Faculty recruitment and development related plans are being implemented over the project life. Plans are yet to be developed.</p>	

<p>3.R&D and technology entrepreneurship strengthened</p>	<p>2f. Number of IT professional training certificates issued by or through the three universities increased to 5,000 per year (2022 baseline: 200)</p> <p>By 2028 for all indicators: 3a. At least 10 university–industry research collaboration projects, 6 interdisciplinary research projects (including COVID-19 responses), and 4 research projects for disability solutions implemented</p> <p>3b. At least 2,000 students, faculty members, and IT professionals (30% women and 30% from other universities) reported enhanced knowledge and skills in technology entrepreneurship</p> <p>3c. At least 55 startup groups supported by three universities</p> <p>3d. At least 540 postgraduate students (40% women) from three universities supported under the stipend program for the duration of the study</p> <p>3e. At least five national software and technology competition events are open to students completed</p>	<p>2f. (2022 baseline: 200)</p> <p>3a. (2022 baseline: 0)</p> <p>3b. (2022 baseline: 0)</p> <p>3c. (2022 baseline: 0) (OP 1.2.2)</p> <p>3d. (2022 baseline: no stipend program implemented; 18.6% of postgraduate students were women)</p> <p>3e. (2022 baseline: 0)</p>	<p>2e. Industry professional training programs are yet to be identified for implementation.</p> <p>3.a Review of the Draft Research Grant Manual competed, and it has been sent to HSED for approval.</p> <p>3b. Technology entrepreneurship development training programs are under process.</p> <p>3.c The Guideline/Policy for BUET has been prepared and BUET has received 26 Business Proposal.</p> <p>3d. A Guideline formulated for the Scholarship, Stipend and Fellowship for the JUST has been approved and shared with ADB. The PIU of JUST has taken the initiative to launch the scholarship, stipend and fellowship program DU & BUET has submitted revised proposals in this regards.</p>	
<p>4. Project management capacity strengthened</p>	<p>4a. By 2024, manuals for stipend, research and development, internship program implementation and monitoring system (with data disaggregated by sex and social group^d) developed</p> <p>4b. By 2028, student services and career guidance centers established and operational in three universities, with at least five annual job fair events open to all CSE/IT</p>	<p>4a. (2022 baseline: manuals not available)</p> <p>4b. (2022 baseline: centers not existing)</p>	<p>4b. Several Job fairs have been planned during 2025</p>	

	<p>students from all higher education institutions and universities (and participated by at least 30% women students)</p> <p>4c. By 2028, coordination mechanism with industry associations established</p>	<p>4c. (2022 baseline: not yet established)</p>	<p>4.c Several meetings arranged with various IT/ITES firms including Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS), Bangladesh Association of Contact Center and Outsourcing (BACCO) for this purpose. Process ongoing to finalize the MoU.</p>	
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Inputs Asian Development Bank: \$100 million (loan) Government of Bangladesh: \$14 million

CSE/IT = computer science and engineering, software engineering, and information technology, N/A = not applicable, OP = operational priority, Q = quarter, R = risk, R&D = research and development.

a Government of Bangladesh, Planning Commission. 2020. 8th Five Year Plan, July 2020–June 2025: Promoting Prosperity and Fostering Inclusiveness. Dhaka.

b The universities selected for this project are Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, University of Dhaka, and Jashore University of Science and Technology. The target refers to at least 40% men and 40% women separately.

c The women-friendly facilities, which are based on gender equity- and social inclusion-responsive considerations, have an adequate number and quality of sanitation facilities for women and people with disability; inclusive and friendly study areas for students; staff lounges for school administrator, teachers, and staff; day-care services; and security and safety features such as access control, increased lighting at night, and video surveillance system.

d This social group refers to, but is not limited to, transgender, small ethnic minorities, and people from hard-to-reach areas.

SOURCE: ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

Implementation Schedule (Revised)

<i>Output 01: Modern Learning, research and Start up Facility</i>						
<i>Assignment/Task</i>	<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Planned Initiation (Tentative)</i>	<i>Actual Initiation</i>	<i>Present Status</i>	<i>Comment</i>	
<i>1.1 Prepare civil works bidding documents for three universities (Q3&Q4 2023)</i>						
<i>1.1a Finalization of Architectural Design and Structural Design by the PIU Universities.</i>	<i>DU</i>	<i>July - Sep 2023</i>		<i>Completed</i>		
	<i>BUET</i>	<i>Jan-Sep 2025</i>		<i>On going</i>	<i>Expected by August 2025</i>	
	<i>JUST</i>	<i>Apr-June 2025</i>		<i>On going</i>	<i>Expected by August 2025</i>	
<i>1.1b Prepare bidding documents for Construction of Multi-Storied Building</i>	<i>DU</i>	<i>July - Sep 2023</i>		<i>Completed</i>		
	<i>BUET</i>	<i>Apr-Sep 2025</i>		<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Expected by November 2025</i>	
	<i>JUST</i>	<i>-July-Sep 2025</i>		<i>-</i>	<i>Expected by November 2025</i>	
<i>1.1c Publish Tender for Building Construction in e-GP</i>	<i>DU</i>	<i>Oct – Dec 2024</i>	<i>26 Nov 2024</i>	<i>Completed</i>		
	<i>BUET</i>	<i>Oct-Dec 2025</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Expected by October 2025</i>	
	<i>JUST</i>	<i>July-Sep 2025</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Expected by October 2025</i>	
<i>1.2 Commence construction (Q2 2024 – Q2 2026).</i>						
<i>1.2a Contract Signing with Construction Firm</i>	<i>DU</i>	<i>Oct-Dec 2025</i>			<i>Expected by December 2025</i>	
	<i>BUET</i>	<i>Apr-June 2026</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>		
	<i>JUST</i>	<i>Oct-Dec 2025</i>		<i>-</i>		
<i>1.2b Commencement of construction works</i>	<i>DU</i>	<i>Jan-Mar 2026</i>		<i>-</i>		
	<i>BUET</i>	<i>Apr-June 2026</i>				
	<i>JUST</i>	<i>Oct-Dec 2025</i>				
<i>1.2c Deploy Consultant Firm for supervision of Construction Works</i>	<i>DU</i>	<i>Jan-Mar 2026</i>	<i>01 January 2025</i>	<i>Shortlisting report under approval</i>		
	<i>BUET</i>	<i>Apr-June 2026</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>		

		<i>JUST</i>	<i>Oct-Dec 2025</i>			<i>Expected to REO published by August 2025</i>
	<i>1.2d Completion of construction works</i>	<i>DU</i>	<i>July-Sep 2027</i>		<i>-</i>	<i>Expected by January 2028</i>
		<i>BUET</i>	<i>Oct – Dec 2027</i>			<i>Expected by April 2028</i>
		<i>JUST</i>	<i>Oct – Dec 2027</i>			<i>Expected by April 2028</i>
	<i>1.3 Prepare operations manual for start-up facilities and services (Q4 2023)</i>					
<i>1.3a Prepare operations manual for start-up facilities and services</i>		<i>DU</i>	<i>April – June 2026</i>			<i>Consultant is on-boarding, it could available Q3 2025</i>
		<i>BUET</i>	<i>April – June 2026</i>			<i>Prepared Incubation Policy for CSE BUET</i>
		<i>JUST</i>	<i>April – June 2026</i>			<i>Consultant is on-boarding, it could available Q3 2025</i>
<i>1.4 Update equipment specifications and prepare bidding documents (Q3 2023)</i>			<i>Oct -Dec 2023</i>			<i>The initiative wbe takentake after starting construction work of Learning Centre</i>
<i>1.5 Conduct bidding of goods (equipment and furniture) (Q1-Q4 2024).</i>						<i>-</i>
<i>1.4a Procurement of computer and accessories for PIU, DU</i>		<i>DU</i>	<i>Jul-Sep 2026</i>			
<i>1.4b Procurement of Laptops for Needy Students (Multiple Packages)</i>		<i>DU</i>	<i>Jul-Sep 2026</i>			<i>-</i>
<i>1.4c Procurement of Office Equipment for PIU, DU</i>		<i>DU</i>	<i>Jul-Sep 2026</i>			<i>-</i>
<i>1.4d Procurement of furniture for PIU, DU</i>		<i>DU</i>	<i>Jul-Sep 2026</i>			<i>-</i>
<i>1.4e Procurement of equipment for IT HR Hub of Dhaka University</i>		<i>DU</i>	<i>Oct-Dec 2027</i>			<i>-</i>

Lot -1: Procurement of Network equipment and establishment of wireless network system	DU	Oct-Dec 2027			-
Lot-2: Procurement of Desktop Computers, Virtual Devices, Dumb Terminal for IT HR Hub	DU	Oct-Dec 2027			-
Lot-3: Procurement of Security and Video Solution equipment for IP Surveillance and Access control system	DU	Oct-Dec 2027			-
Lot-4: Procurement of equipment for IP Telephony System	DU	Oct-Dec 2027			-
1.4f Procurement of IT equipment and Establishment of Data Centre at DU	DU	Oct-Dec 2027			-
1.4g Procurement of furniture for IT HR Hub, DU	DU	Oct-Dec 2027			-
1.4h Procurement of computer and accessories for PIU, BUET	BUET	July-Sep 2025	01 July 2025	e-Tender in live	
1.4i Procurement of Laptops for Needy Students (Multiple Packages)	BUET	July-Sep 2025	-		
1.4j Procurement of Office Equipment for PIU, BUET	BUET	July-Sep 2025	18 June 2025	e-Tender in live	Bid invited
1.4k Procurement of furniture for PIU, BUET	BUET	Apr-June 2025	15 Dec 2024	Contract signed	Implementation on going
1.4l Procurement of equipment for establishment of Incubator, new labs at BUET	BUET	Oct 27 – Mar 2028			-The initiative will take after starting construction work of Learning Centre
Lot-1: Procurement of IT equipment for establishment of Incubator at BUET	BUET	Oct 27 – Mar 2028			Do
Lot-2: Procurement of CSE lab equipment and establishment of 24 labs at BUET	BUET	July 25 – Mar 2028	Part1 C1: Scanner - 13 Feb 2025 Part1 C2: Heavy Printers - 15 Mar 2025	Part1 C1: Scanner - Evaluation Report under Approval Process	Lot 2 has multiple packages
1.4m Procurement of furniture for establishment of new incubator, lab, and data center at BUET	BUET	Oct 27 – Mar 2028			Initiative will take after starting

					construction work of Learning Centre
1.4n Procurement of computer and accessories for PIU, JUST	JUST	Jan – June 2025	-		
1.4o Procurement of Laptops for Needy Students (Multiple Packages)	JUST	April – June 2025	24 Mar 2025	Under Evaluation	
1.4p Procurement of Office Equipment for PIU, JUST	JUST	J – June 2025	24 Mar 2025	Under Evaluation	
1.4q Procurement of furniture for PIU, JUST	JUST	Jan – June 2025	6 Feb 2025	Evaluation Report under Approval Process	
1.4r Procurement of computers & accessories, network equipment, communication devices, etc for JUST	JUST	Oct – Dec 2027	-		
Lot-1: Procurement of Network equipment and establishment of network system	JUST	Oct – Dec 2027			
Lot-2: Procurement of servers, Desktop Computers, Virtual Devices, Dumb Terminals, printers, teaching aid equipment etc for JUST	JUST	Oct – Dec 2027			
Lot-3: Procurement of communication and Security devices	JUST	Oct – Dec 2027			
1.4s Procurement of furniture for Incubator Center, Labs & Data Center, JUST	JUST	Oct – Dec 2027			
1.5 Conduct bidding of goods (equipment and furniture) (Q1-Q4 2024).					
1.5 Completion of all procurements of goods (equipment and furniture)	DU	Oct-Dec 2027			
	BUET	Jan –March 2028			
	JUST	Oct – Dec 2027			
Output 2. Quality and industry relevance of computer science and engineering, software engineering and information technology programs enhanced					

2.1 Conduct industry consultations, including women participants, for new degree programs (Q4 2023).		Oct –Dec 2023			Initiative ongoing.
2.2 Commence new degree programs for fourth-year students (Q1 2025).		Jan – March 2025			Planning stage.
Developing new or upgrading existing degree programs at PIU universities	DU	July – Sep 2027			Planning stage
	BUET	Jan – Sep- – 2028			
	JUST	Jan-26 – March-28			Planning
Expert Services from Visiting Professors	PMU	Jan-25 –Sep-2028			
	DU	Jan-26 – Sep-2028			Guideline preparation ongoing
	BUET	April -26– Dec-2028			
	JUST	April-25 – March-2028			
Introduction of Online Open Courseware	PMU	Jan – Dec 2026			Strategy formulation stage
	DU	Jan –Dec 2026			
	BUET	Jan – Dec 2026			
	JUST	Jan – Dec 2026			
Strengthening UGC Digital Library with e-books and e-journals	PMU	April – June-2026			
Digital learning materials or other online service subscription through BdREN	PMU	April- June 2025			
2.3 Complete required documentation for international accreditation (Q2 2024)					
2.3 Complete requirements for international accreditation aligned with Washington Accord.	DU	Jan – March 2027			Preparation of all the 3 universities are ongoing
	BUET	Jan – March 2027			
	JUST	Jan – March 2027			
2.4 Apply for international accreditation for new technology programs (Q1 2025)					Do
2.4 Apply for international accreditation for new technology programs	DU	April – June 2027			
	BUET	April – June 2027			
	JUST	April – June 2027			
2.5 Develop faculty recruitment and development plan (Q1 2024) and implement over the project duration					
Financial support to faculty members of JUST to obtain PhD degree from abroad	JUST	Jan-25 – March 2028			Program is going to be launched
	DU	Jan – March 2026			

Increase in faculty members at PIU Universities	BUET	Jan – March 2026			
	JUST	Jan – March 2026			
Training for faculty members and support staff	PMU	Jan-25 June 2028			Initiative taken to launch the program particularly in JUST
	DU	Jan 25–June 2028			
	BUET	July-25 – June 28			
	JUST	Jan-25 – March 28			
2.6 Identify industry partners for internship programs and joint capstone projects (from Q1 2024 onward)					
Industry attachment for undergraduate students through internship or capstone projects	PMU	July-25-Dec-2027			Draft Guideline has been prepared
	DU	July-25– March-28			
	BUET	July-25– March-28			
	JUST	Jan-25 – Dec-2027			
Conferences, seminars, job fairs, etc.	PMU	April - June 2024			Ongoing
2.7 Identify industry professional training programs and conduct them (from Q1 2025 onward)					
2.7 IT professionals training programs for students	DU	July-25 –March-28			JUST has launched the program. Other 2 Universities has taken initiative to launch the training program.
	BUET	July-25– March-28			
	JUST	July-25– March-28			
Output 3. Research and development and technology entrepreneurship strengthened					
3.1 Develop an operation manual for research grant making (Q4 2023).					
3.1a Develop an operation manual for research and development grant	PMU	Jan-24 –Sep -2025			Draft prepared and waiting for approval
3.1b Research Grant mechanism awareness	PMU	April -25 – Dec 25			Initiative taken
3.2 Call for proposals for research grants for the following year (from Q1 2024 to Q1 2027 annually).		April –June 2025			Expecting 4 th week of August.
3.2 Call for proposals for research grants in several rounds (from Q1 2025 to Q3 2026 Semi-annually)		July- 25 --- Marh 26 –			Draft Manual has been prepared and shared with SHED.
3.3 Award research grants and monitoring their progress (every year from 2024 to 2027).					

3.3 Award research grants and monitoring their progress (every year from 2025 to 2029).	PMU	July-25 --- Dec-2028			
3.4 Design technology entrepreneurship development training program (Q2 2024).					
3.4a Prepare ToR for consultant for designing technology entrepreneurship training program	PMU	July -_Sep 2025			Expecting January 2026.
3.4b Deploy Consulting firm for designing technology entrepreneurship training program	PMU	July –Sep 2025			
3.5 Conduct the training program (Q3 2024–Q3 2028).					
3.5 Conduct the technology entrepreneurship training program through the consulting firm	PMU	July-25–Jun 2028			
	DU	July-25–Jun 2028			
	BUET	July-25–Jun 2028			
	JUST	July-25–Jun 2028			
3.6 Recruit start-up facility management and service team and conduct training for university staff (Q1 2024).		?			
3.6 Study visit on Start-up and incubation center (Overseas Training)	PMU	July – Oct 2025			Proposal collected from travel agencies.
3.7 Approve the stipend program manual (Q4 2023) and apply it from the new academic year (2024 onward).					
3.7a Prepare a stipend program manual for ICSETEP	PMU	Jan – June 2025			Manual for JUST has been prepared and process ongoing for DU & BUET
3.7b Approve the stipend program manual and apply it in the universities	DU	July-25 –June2028			
	BUET	July-25 –une2028			
	JUST	July-25 –June-28			
Stipend, Scholarship & Internship					
International Internship program for students	PMU	July-25 –June-28			
	DU	July-25 –une2028			
	BUET	July-25 –une2028			
	JUST	July-25 –June2028			Application Invited

Domestic internship stipends (3 months) for students	PMU	July-25 –June2028			Draft Manual Prepared
	DU	July-25 –June2028			
	BUET	July-25 –June2028			
	JUST	July-25 –June2028			
Support for female employment promotion to 5 companies	PMU	July-25 –June2028			Initial information is collecting
Stipend and Fellowship for Masters and Phd Students	DU	July-25 –June2028			Process initiated
	BUET	July-25 –June2028			Process Initiated
	JUST	July-25 –June2028			Application Invited
Stipend for Female Students	DU	July-25 –June2028			Process Initiated
	BUET	July-25 –June2028			Process Initiated
	JUST	July-25 –June2028			Application Invited
Software and technology competitions, boot camps, hackathon, etc. through event management consulting firm	PMU	July-25 –June2028			
	DU	July-25 –June2028			
	BUET	April-25 – June2028			
	JUST	July-25 –June2028			One Programing contest has been organized
Outsourcing/ Self-employment programs	PMU	Jan 26 – June 2028			
Output 4. Project management capacity strengthened					
4.1 Design the web-based systems for various project activities (Q4 2023 – Q2 2024)					
Prepare ToR for the web-based MIS system		Jan – June 2025			Preparation Completed.
Publish tender for MIS system development		July -Sep 2025			
Contract with software firm for web-based MIS systems		July – Sep 2025			
4.2 Train department staff on modern practices in higher education management (from Q1 2024 onward)					
4.2 Training on modern pedagogy in technology education and other online training for faculty members	PMU	July -25 – June2028			

4.3 Establish student service and industry relations centers and carry out the activities and services (Q1 2024 onward)					
4.3 Establish student service and industry relations centers and carry out the activities and services with career guidance programs	DU	July 25 – June 2028			
	BUET	July 25 – June 2028			
	JUST	April 25 – June 28			
B Project Management Activities					
Establish PMU and PIUs (Q3 2023 onward) and produce quarterly progress reports (from Q4 2023)					
Establish PMU and PIUs (Q3 2023 onward)		July-23 – June 2028			
Produce quarterly progress reports (from Q1 2025 onward)		Jan 25 – June 2028			
Deploy the construction supervision consultant (Q4 2023–Q3 2025)					
Deploy Construction Supervision consultants for PIUs	DU	Jan 26 – June 2027			
	BUET	April 26 – June 2027			
	JUST	an 26 – June 2027			
Quarterly Progress Report	PMU	Oct 24 --- June 2028			Preparing regularly
Gender Action Plan	PMU	Jan 25 – June 2028			Formulated
Communication Strategy	PMU	July 24 – June 2028			
Mid Term Review		April – June 2025			

GENDER EQUITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION ACTION PLAN

Activities	Cumulative Progress up to reporting quarter (Up to June 2025)	Overall Status
Outcome. Industry responsiveness of tertiary level CSE/IT education improved		
<p>a. Employability of CSE/IT graduates improved</p> <p>Targets and Indicators: At least 40% of graduates (both men and women) with bachelor’s degrees from the three universities are employed within 6 months of graduation a (2018 baseline: 28.1%, male 28.2% and female 27.8%)</p>	<p>Initiative has been taken to achieve the target. The gender related issues are including in all the related guidelines.</p>	<p>The Gender Specialist has been on board 12 May 2025.</p>
Output 1. Modern learning, research and start-up facilities established		
<p>1. Establish GESI-responsive facilities in the expansion and modernization of learning and research infrastructures (DMF 1a)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators: 1. GESI responsive infrastructure for the expanded CSE/IT programs, in three universities^b (2022 baseline: 0)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For DU: The draft RFP DU/S-1: Consultancy Services for Supervision of Construction Works under DU, tender of Construction of two basements and 13 storied green and smart building including sanitary, water supply, electronic at DU, Amendments of General Conditions of Contract, Form CON: Declaration of Environment, Health and safety Performance were reviewed. Women friendly facilities, which are based on gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) considerations (as per DMF and GESI action plan of ICSETEP) had been included under the paragraph on 5. IT HR Building of DU under section 7 (Terms of Reference). • For JUST: On 21st May 2025, Sheltech Ltd. (Architectural firm responsible for designing infrastructure for JUST) and JUST representatives at UGC were provided suggestions to ensure ‘Women-Friendly/GESI responsive Facilities’ as per ADB recommendation. Suggestions were given to include day care facility, adequate number and quality of sanitation facilities for women and people with disability along with men and inclusive study areas. • The consulting firms was suggested to include the provision of Day care facility and sanitation facilities for people with disabilities which were not included in the initial architectural design. In the final meeting on 4th June 2025 with them at ICSETEP office, recommendations were also provided to ensure washroom facilities (at least 3) for girls, boys and caregivers/guardians inside the day care, ample space for playing, eating and resting for children inside the day care, security features (as per ADB 	

	<p>requirement), sanitation facilities for women and men in gallery, wheel-chair accessible entry points in classroom, gallery, study areas, lab etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For BUET: In GESI Action Plan Orientation Workshop at BUET, PIU Head was requested to involve Gender Specialist with the architectural firm representatives for GESI review of the design to ensure the GESI in the works component. 	
<p>2. Facilities for start-up companies established in three universities (DMF output 1b)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>2. GESI-responsive facilities for start-up companies established at least for 2 universities (2022 baseline: 0)</p>	<p>The facilities will be ensured as initiatives has been taken to include in the design.</p>	
<p>3. Increased access for women in modern learning, research or start-up facilities</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>3. At least 170 women students admitted per year benefitted from modern learning, research or startup facilities (2022 baseline: 82 new women student intake)</p>	<p>It will be measured after construction of the facility.</p>	
<p>4. Undergraduate and graduate students completed CSE/IT programs (DMF output 2a)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>4. At least 550 (25% of 2,200) women undergraduate and graduate students completed CSE/IT programs in three universities (2022 baseline: 480 students, 17.1% women)</p> <p>5. At least 370 women received undergraduate scholarship (2022 baseline: no women receive undergraduate scholarship to study CSE/IT education)</p>	<p>Developed an Excel file for collecting sex-disaggregated (including disability) data on enrollment and completion in undergrad and postgrad level and shared with three PIUs. PIU Head and Deputy PIU Head were communicated to support collecting data (year of 2022-2025) from admin, register and exam control office. This data will be used to understand the completion status in BSc, MSc, MPhil and PhD level of women students in these universities and whether the targets 4-6 can be achieved without deviation.</p>	
<p>5. Faculty members increased and trained in modern pedagogical approaches (DMF output 2d)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>6. Women faculty members increased to at least 20% (40 out of 200) (2022 baseline: 13.1% [14 out of 107])</p> <p>7. At least 75% women faculty members reported</p>		

<p>enhanced knowledge and skills in modern pedagogic approaches (2022 baseline: no women faculty members are trained in modern pedagogic approaches)</p>		
<p>6. Graduates from the three universities and other universities completed internships or industry-collaboration capstone projects (DMF output 2e)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>8. At least 80% of men and women graduates from the three universities completed internships or industry- collaboration capstone projects (2022 baseline: 8.3% of graduates [2.8% among women])</p> <p>9. At least 300 students (at least 50% women) from other universities completed internships or industry-collaboration capstone projects (2022 baseline: 8.3% of graduates [2.8% among women])</p>	<p>To understand the employment status of former alumnae (graduated from 2020 to 2025), an excel sheet with sex disaggregated data (including with disabilities) was developed and shared with PIUs and waiting for that information.</p>	
<p>Output 3. R&D and technology entrepreneurship strengthened</p>		
<p>7. Conduct research and development for people with disability (DMF output 3a)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>10. At least 4 research projects implemented for disability solutions.</p>		

Activities	Cumulative Progress up to reporting quarter (Up to June 2025)	Overall Status
<p>8. Enhanced knowledge and skills of faculty members and IT professionals in technology entrepreneurship (DMF output 3b)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>11. At least 2,000 students, faculty members, and IT professionals (30% women) reported enhanced knowledge and skills related to technology entrepreneurship (2022 baseline: 0)</p> <p>12. At least three GESI-related cases of technology enterprise focusing women specific issues or services, or enterprises established by women to be included in the training modules (2022 baseline: 0)</p>		
<p>9. Provide scholarships and stipends to postgraduate students in three universities (DMF output 3d)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>13. At least 540 postgraduate students (40% women) from three universities supported under the stipend program for the duration of the study (2022 baseline: no stipend program for postgraduate CSE/IT education)</p>	<p>To achieve the target, the gender issues are included in the Guideline formulated for Fellowship, Scholarship and Stipend by JUST. DU & BUET are also in the process to cover this issue in their guidelines.</p>	
<p>10. By 2024, manuals for stipend, research grant, internship program implementation and monitoring system developed (DMF output 4a)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>14. Manuals and monitoring system developed with sex and social group (d) disaggregated data (2022 baseline: manuals not available)</p> <p>15. At least 200 women faculties and students reported enhanced knowledge on gender equity and socially inclusive learning environment and project implementation through forums (2022 baseline: no forum)</p>	<p>To aware members of PIUs, PCCs and faculty members of BUET, DU and JUST about GESI Action Plan of ICSETEP project, Gender Specialist conducted 3 Orientation Workshops (half day per workshop duration) with support from PMU at BUET, DU and JUST on 24, 25 and 29 June 2025 respectively. Through these orientation workshops, participants got an overall understanding of activities, specific targets and indicators, timeframe, responsible agencies and basic topics (in brief) on Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) related issues. Total 50 faculties (5 are women faculties among them) attended the orientation workshops in these three universities.</p>	

<p>11. Student services and career guidance centers established and operational with at least 5 annual job fair events open to all CSE/IT students (DMF output 4b)</p> <p>Targets and Indicators:</p> <p>16. By 2028, student services and career guidance centers established and operational in three universities with at least 5 annual job fair events open to all CSE/IT students from all higher education institutions and universities (at least 30% women students) (2022 baseline: no centers)</p>		
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LOAN 4348 BAN: IMPROVING COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE ENGINEERING TERTIARY EDUCATION PROJECT (ICSETEP)

STATUS OF COMPLIANCE WITH LOAN COVENANTS

SCHEDULE 4

Execution of Project; Financial Matters

Description	Schedule/Due Date	Status/Remarks
<u>Implementation Arrangements</u>		
1.The Borrower shall ensure, or cause, the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the detailed arrangements set forth in the PAM. Any subsequent change to the PAM shall become effective only after approval of such change by the Borrower and ADB. In the event of any discrepancy between the PAM and this Loan agreement, the provisions of this Loan Agreement shall prevail.	Entire Project Period	Conformed to the Agreement
2.The Borrower shall ensure, or cause the Project Executing Agency and the implementing Agencies to ensure, that (a) all positions Identified as key personnel within each of the PMU and PIUs, as set forth in the PAM, are filled for the full duration of the Project by individuals with adequate skills and relevant to each position; (b) vacancies in such positions should they occur, are filled within 3 months, and (c) the PMU and PIUs are allocated the necessary office space, facilities, equipment, support staff and management information systems to carry out their responsibilities in an efficient and timely manner.	Project Period	Complied with both the PMU & PIU
<u>Procurement</u>		
3.The Borrower shall ensure, or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure, that (a) the procurement of Goods, Works and Services is carried out in accordance with the Procurement and the Procurement Regulations	Project Period	Conforming

(b)Goods, Works and Services shall be procured based on the detailed arrangements set forth in the Procurement Plan, including the procurement and selection methods, the type of bidding documents and ADB's review requirements. The Borrower may modify the detailed arrangements set forth in the Procurement Plan only with the prior agreement of ADB, and such modifications must be set out in updates to the Procurement Plan; and	Project Period	Conforming
(c)(i)a Goods and Works procured and Services Obtained (including all computer hardware software and systems, whether separately procured or incorporated within other goods and services procured) do not violate or infringe any industrial property or intellectual property right or claim of any third party; and	Project Period	Conforming
(ii)all contracts for the procurement of Goods, Work and Services contain appropriate representations, warranties and, if appropriate, indemnities from the contractor, supplier, consultant or service provider with respect to the matters referred to in this subparagraph.	During implementation period	Conforming
<u>Conditions for Award of Contract</u>		Conforming
3.The Borrower, the Project Executing Agency and the implementing Agencies shall not award any Works or Non-consulting Services contract, which involves environmental impacts until: (a)the relevant environment authority of the Borrower has granted the approval of the IEE, and the Borrower has obtained ADBs clearance of the IEE based on the final design; and	Before Works and No-Consulting Services advertisement	Conforming
(b)the Project Executing Agency or the Implementing Agencies have incorporated the relevant provisions from the EMP Into the respective Works or Non-consulting Services contract.	During Works or Non-Consulting Services Contract	Conforming
<u>Safeguards Environment</u>		
5.The Borrower shall ensure, or cause the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies to ensure, that the preparation, design, construction, Implementation, operation and decommissioning of the Project and all Project facilities comply with (a) all applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower relating to environment, health and safety; (b) the Environmental Safeguards; and(c)all measures and requirements set forth in the IEE, the EMP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report.	During the design, pre-construction, construction, and post-construction phases	Conforming EMP has been incorporated in the bidding documents for Construction of

<u>Tribes, Minor Races, Ethnic Sects and Community Peoples, Land and Acquisition Involuntary Resettlement</u>		the Learning, Research and Startup facility at DU. IEE will be conducted before bidding.
6.The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executive Agency and the Implementing Agencies to ensure, that the Project does not involve risks or impacts to tribes minor races, ethnic sects and community or involuntary resettlement impacts, all within the meaning of the SPS, in the event that the Project does have any such risk or impact, the Borrower shall take, or cause the Project Executing Agency and the implementing Agencies to take all steps required to ensure that the Project complies With the applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower and with the SPS. <u>Human and Financial Resources to Implement Safeguards Requirements</u>	For contract Works	Conforming
7.The Borrower shall make available, or cause the Project Executing Agency and implementing Agencies to make available, necessary budgetary and human resources to fully implement the EMP. <u>Safeguards-Related Provisions in Bidding Documents and Works Contracts</u>	Implementation of the Works Contract	Conforming
8. The Borrower shall ensure, or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure that all bidding documents and contracts for Works contain provisions that require contractors to; (a)comply with the measures relevant to the contractor set forth in the IEE the EMP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report;	For contract Works	Conforming
(b)make available a budget for all such environmental and social measures;	During Building process	Conforming
(c)provide the Borrower with a written notice of any unanticipated environmental resettlement or tribes, minor races, ethnic sects and community people’s risks or impacts that arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in the IEE and the EMP.	During construction and post construction	Conforming

(d)adequately record the condition of roads, agricultural land and other infrastructure prior to starting to transport materials and construction; and	During pre- and construction construction period	Conforming
(e)reinstate pathways, other local infrastructure, and agricultural land to at least their pre-project condition upon the completion of construction.	At the post construction stage	Conforming
<u>Safeguard and Monitoring and Report</u>		
9. The Borrower shall do the following, or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to do the mowing: (a)submit semiannual Safeguards Monitoring Reports to ADB and disclose relevant information from such reports to affect persons promptly upon submission;	During pre- and construction construction period	Conforming
(b)if any unanticipated environment and /or social risks and impacts arise during construction, implementation or operation of Project that were not considered in the IEE and the EMP, promptly Inform ADB of the of the occurrence of such risks or impacts, with detailed description of the event and proposed corrective action plan; and	During pre- construction, construction period and post construction period	Conforming
(c) report any actual or potential breach of compliance with the measures and requirements set forth in the EMP promptly after becoming aware of the breach,	During construction period	Conforming
<u>Prohibited List of Investments</u>		
10. The Borrower shall ensure, or cause, the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure, that no proceeds of the Loan are used to finance any activity included in the list of prohibited investment activities provided in Appendix 5 of the SPS.	During Project Period	Conforming
<u>Labor Standards, Health and Safety</u>		

<p>11. The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure, that the core labor standards and the Borrower's applicable laws and regulations are complied with during Project Implementation. The Borrower shall include specific provisions in the bidding documents and contracts financed by ADB under the Project requiring that the contractors, among other things: (a) comply with the Borrower's applicable labor law and regulations and incorporate applicable workplace occupational safety norms; (b) do not use child labor; (c) do not discriminate against workers in respect of employment and occupation; (d) do not use forced labor; (e) allow freedom of association and effectively recognize the right to collective bargaining; and (f) disseminate or engage appropriate service providers to disseminate, information on the risks of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to the employees of contractors engaged under the Project and to members of the local communities surrounding the Project area particularly women.</p>	<p>For Works</p>	<p>To be complied. The Labor Standards, Health and Safety issues already incorporated in the bidding documents for Construction of the Learning, Research and Startup facility at DU.</p>
<p>12. The Borrower shall strictly monitor compliance with the requirements set forth in paragraph 11 above and provide ADB with regular reports.</p>	<p>During pre-construction, construction period</p>	<p>Conforming</p>
<p><u>Gender and Development</u></p>		
<p>13. The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure, that (a) the GAP is implemented in accordance with its terms; (b) the bidding documents and contracts include relevant provisions for contractors to comply with the measures set forth in the GAP. (c) adequate resources are allocated to implementation of the GAP; and (d) progress on implementation of the GAP, including progress toward achieving key gender outcome and output targets, are regularly monitored and reported to ADB.</p>	<p>During Project Period</p>	<p>Conforming</p>
<p><u>Counterpart Support</u></p>		

14.The Borrower shall make available through budgetary allocations or other means, all counterpart funds required for the timely and effective implementation of the Project including funds required to(a) mitigate unforeseen environmental or social impacts; (b) meet additional costs arising from design changes, price escalation in construction or installation costs or other unforeseen circumstances; (c) ensure effective operation and maintenance of the Project facilities, both during and after completion of the Project; and (d) ensure the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies have sufficient funds to satisfy their liabilities arising from any Works. Goods and/or Services contract.	During project Implementation	Conforming
15.In addition to the foregoing, the Borrower shall provide, or cause the Project Executing Agency to provide, all counterpart funds required to meet capital expenditure and operational expenditure of each implementing Agency.	During project Implementation	Conforming
<u>Financial Covenants</u>		
16.The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies to ensure that the PMU and the PIUs implement the financial management action plan provided in the PAM.	During implementation of period	Conforming
17.The Borrower shall further ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies to ensure that the PMU and the PIUs comply with the detailed arrangements set forth in the PAM with respect to financial management.	During project Implementation	Conforming
<u>Reporting</u>		
18.The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency to ensure That UGC provide to ADB periodic reports on the execution of the Project, the operation and management of Project facilities and compliance with this Loan Agreement, in accordance with the requirements set out in the PAM, with each such report describing the activities of each Implementing Agency during the period to which the report relates, based on reports provided to UGC by each Implementing Agency.	During Project Implementation	Conforming
<u>Governance and Anticorruption</u>		

<p>19. The Borrower, the Project Executing Agency and the implementing Agencies shall</p> <p>(a) comply with ADB's Anticorruption Policy (1998 as amended to date) and acknowledge that ADB reserves the right to investigate directly, or through its agents any alleged corrupt, fraudulent collusive or coercive practice relating to the Project: and</p> <p>(b) cooperate with any such investigation and extend all necessary assistance for satisfactory completion of such investigation.</p>	<p>During Project Implementation</p>	<p>Conforming</p>
<p>20. The Borrower, the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies shall ensure that the anticorruption provisions acceptable to ADB are included in all bidding documents and contracts, including provisions specifying the right of ADB to audit and examine the records and accounts of the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies and all contractors suppliers, consultants, and other service providers as they relate to the Project.</p>	<p>During Project Period</p>	<p>Conforming</p>

