Review of the Economic Analysis and Due Diligence of the CASA-1000 Project and Rogun HPP Assessment Studies

General Points

The text below is a summary of a consultancy assignment that was commissioned through the Evidence on Demand Framework Agreement and carried out between October 2013 and June 2014.

Background

The objective of the assignment was to enable a senior economist to provide technical input to the due diligence of the World Bank and DFID. Under the umbrella of the Central Asia Energy Water Development Program (CAEWDP), the World Bank has deepened its engagement in a number of important regional initiatives and studies. The two key programs under CAEWDP are: (a) the regional power trade program - including the CASA-1000 Project (that aims to connect existing hydropower surpluses in Central Asia to South Asia and build the commercial basis for regional energy trade); (b) the riparian dialogue and associated international due-diligence of the Rogun studies with a focus on economic and financial analysis under the techno-economic assessment (TEAS) contract.

Consultancy

The focus of this consultancy assignment was to support the World Bank and DFID in reviewing the economic analysis and due diligence of the CASA 1000 Project and Rogun HPP Assessment Studies. CASA-1000, which aims to connect existing hydropower surpluses in Central Asia to South Asia and build the commercial basis for energy trade, and the riparian dialogue and associated international due diligence of the Rogun studies are the two key programmes under the World Bank's Central Asia Energy Water Development Programme (CAEWDP).

The work carried out included:

- Reviewing the economic analysis for the CASA project, specifically providing
 analytical approaches for the economic evaluation, evaluating the analytical rigour
 and robustness of the methodology and model for economic appraisal of the project
 as a whole and for each participating country, and preparing brief notes on the
 economic costs and benefits for each country;
- Reviewing and carrying out due diligence of reports relating to economic and financial analysis prepared by the TEAS (Techno-Economic Assessment) consultants.

The consultant was responsible for delivering project-specific written economic assessment reports and corresponding Excel models, written comments and detailed analysis on reports, studies and other documents presented for review, discussion and finalisation, and written contributions to the Bank's report in areas of economic and financial analysis.

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