

Project Summary for Public Disclosure
(after approval of NDB financing)

Project Name	Guizhou Qianxinan Rural Roads Improvement Program
Country	The People's Republic of China
Type	Sovereign
Area of Operation	Transport Infrastructure
Concept Approval Date	22 February 2022
Financing Approval Date	01 March 2023
Total Project Cost	RMB 1,515.6 million
Initial Limit of NDB Financing	RMB 1,280.0 million
Current Limit of NDB Financing	RMB 1,280.0 million
Borrower	The People's Republic of China
Project Entity(ies)	The People's Government of Guizhou Province (GoG) The People's Government of Qianxinan Prefecture (GoQ), represented by Qianxinan Transportation Bureau (QTB)
Project Context	Qianxinan is an autonomous prefecture in Guizhou Province located in southwest China. The prefecture has a complex terrain, with more than half the land area covered by mountains. Rural roads play an important role in the social and economic development of the prefecture, providing last-mile connectivity for villages to markets, as well as employment, educational and healthcare facilities. Within Qianxinan, the four counties of Ceheng, Qinglong, Wangmo, and Zhenfeng are less developed than other counties and have recently been lifted out of poverty. A key reason for the low economic development of these counties is the lack of efficient connectivity due to the difficult terrain conditions.
Project Description	The Program includes three components: i. Component I: Rural Road Network Upgrade. This comprises upgrade of about 466 km of rural roads to Class IV standards through reconstruction or overhaul. ii. Component II: Digital Platforms for Comprehensive Rural Road Management. This includes development of digital platforms and associated activities for rural road construction, management, maintenance, and operation. iii. Component III: Institutional Capacity Building. This comprises interventions to enhance the institutional capacity of QTB and the county transportation bureaus for managing the rural road network to achieve long term sustainable impacts.

Project Objective	The Program will address the issues faced by the rural road network in the four counties by upgrading the pavement condition, improving road design, and incorporating safety features for the roads to be upgraded. The Program also includes development of various digital platforms for comprehensive rural road management and operations, and capacity building activities to enhance the institutional capacity of the implementing entities, enabling the long-term sustainable development of the rural roads sector in Qianxinan. The Program outcomes consist of (i) enhanced road connectivity and accessibility, resulting in reduction of journey time by not less than 25% for the Program roads; and (ii) increased average annual daily traffic by 5% on the Program roads due to the improved road conditions. The Program will contribute to the strategy of rural revitalization as envisaged in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan for the 14th FiveYear Plan period (2021-2025) of Qianxinan by improving the rural road network through upgrading critical road links, which will in turn enhance connectivity, benefit the local economy, and raise the standard of living of the rural population.	
Implementation Arrangements	GoG is the executing agency, responsible for overall planning of the Program, guiding and monitoring its execution, and achieving planned results. GoQ represented by QTB is the implementing agency, responsible for implementing the Program through program implementing units (the county governments) under the guidance of the executing agency. The implementation period for the Program is from 2022 to 2026.	
Environmental and Social Information	The Project has been classified as Category B in accordance with the NDB Environment and Social Framework. The main environmental and social impacts of the Program include land acquisition, resettlement of households, occupational safety impacts related to road construction in mountainous regions, disruption of traffic and public utilities, and likely impacts on ethnic minority groups. These impacts will be mitigated by adherence to the requirements of country systems and the implementation of the Environmental and Social Impact Management Plan.	
Financing	The Program will be financed through a loan from NDB and counterpart funding from the county governments.	
	Source of Fund	Amount (RMB million)
	NDB	1,280

	Counterpart funding		235.6
Contacts	NDB	Borrower	Project Entity
	Public Sector Department Ninad Rajpurkar	Ministry of Finance Biao Guo mof_operation1@mof.gov.cn	The People's Government of Qianxinan Prefecture represented by Qianxinan Transportation Bureau Jianping Liu 1079757093@qq.com