

Initial Project Summary – Colombo West International Terminal (CWIT) Project

Project Location: Colombo, Sri Lanka

Name of Applicant: - Colombo West International Terminal Pvt. Limited

Name of Project: Colombo West International Terminal Project

Project Description: The Project involves development of the West Container Terminal 1 (WCT-1) site, which is located on the eastern side of the western breakwater, inside the existing Colombo Port. The WCT-1 terminal area will be reclaimed using approximately 15 million m³ of dredged sand from the approved Sri Lanka Port Authority (SLPA) sand borrow area approximately 20 km northwest of the Colombo Port. The Project will also involve the dredging of about 1.6 million m³ of silty material to make way for the sand. The silt will be disposed of at sea at a site approximately 4 km southwest of the port. Approximately 1.2 million m³ of the silt has already been dredged and disposed of, and about 300,000 m³ remains to be dredged.

The CWIT facilities will include development of a total of 1,400 m of vessel berths that will be able to handle vessels between 500 to 24,000 TEU (or 6,500 to 2,800,000 DWT). Additionally, the Project will include a 64.1 hectare Container Stack Yard with cantilever rail-mounted gantry cranes parallel to the quay length, and additional infrastructure, including:

- Fire detection and fighting systems;
- Entry/exit gate complexes and customs facilities;
- Security control room;
- Substation and diesel backup generator building;
- Port operation building and wharf office building;
- Workers' canteen, rest area, sanitary facilities, and medical center;
- Fuel station; and
- Robotic Container Management System (RCMS) towers

The Project is surrounded by other port terminals and industrial areas. It is estimated that 950 workers will be required during peak construction, reducing to approximately 400 workers during operations.

Environmental and Social Categorization and Rationale: The Project has been reviewed against DFC's categorical prohibitions and determined to be categorically eligible. The Project is screened as Category A because it involves expansion of an existing large-scale port facility, including significant dredging activities. Primary environmental and social issues of concern include impacts to local fishers affected by sand dredging activities, community health and safety, labor and contractor management, occupational health and safety, marine biodiversity, marine water quality, management of wastes and hazardous materials, emergency preparedness and response, and cumulative impacts.

Environmental and Social Standards: DFC's preliminary environmental and social due diligence indicates that the Project will have impacts that must be managed in a manner consistent with the following of the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) 2012 Performance Standards:

- PS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts;
- PS 2: Labor and Working Conditions;
- PS 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention;
- PS 4: Community Health, Safety, and Security; and
- PS 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Resources.

The Project is a brownfield expansion of an existing port, no additional land acquisition is necessary, and the Project will not adversely impact Indigenous Peoples or Cultural Heritage. Therefore, PS 5, 7, and 8 are not triggered by the Project at this time.

In addition to the Performance Standards listed above, the IFC's Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) General Guidelines (April 30, 2007), and the IFC's EHS Guidelines for Ports, Harbors, and Terminals (February 2, 2017) are applicable to the Project.

Location of Local Access to Project Information: The Project ESIA and Non-Technical Summary will be available for review at:

JKH Transportation sector office

JKH Transportation Sector
4, Leyden Bastian Road
Colombo 1