Project Summary:
Purpose: Maximize China’s inland waterway transport capacity as an energy efficient and low-carbon alternative to land transport.
IBRD Financing: US$100 million
Project ID: P101988
Mitigation: Promotion of low-carbon transport and energy generation.

Jiangxi Shihutang Navigation & Hydropower Complex Project
Central China’s most significant inland waterway transport (IWT) network is in Jiangxi Province. This waterway channel – which relies on hydropower – provides cargo to major industries located in most of Jiangxi’s largest cities. The country’s rapidly growing economy has caused the government to expand road and highway freight while investing very little in IWT expansion, which would allow larger and more efficient vessels to pass through the waterway channels. In recent years, the Chinese government began a number of initiatives to address climate change and identified hydropower as key to scaling up alternative energy sources.

The Jiangxi Shihutang Navigation & Hydropower Complex Project’s goals include increased river transport, reduced carbon emissions (about 450,000 tons CO₂eq per annum), 470 GWh of hydroelectricity generated, and about 4,400 ha of crop land protected from flooding. In support of these goals the project is improving the inland waterway channels and services for industrial shipping along the Gan River, while also reducing flooding. The project will generate hydroelectricity to help meet the rapidly growing demand for energy in the region through a low-carbon power source. Technical assistance and training is also being provided to the administrative staff charged with managing the complex.

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