**Summary**

The objectives are to: (i) improve the governance of the gas sector through its restructuring and increased private sector participation by developing an enabling regulatory framework; (ii) ensure the long-term financial viability of the sector by reducing technical and non-technical system losses and improving management of sector entities; and (iii) increase the pace of economic development in less-developed regions of the country by expanding the sustainable use and supply of natural gas. The Project will also improve air quality, reduce deforestation, and lessen respiratory diseases.