



Asian Development Bank Liaison Office INTERNATIONAL MARKET INSIGHTS

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ASIA & PACIFIC: INTERNATIONAL MARKET INSIGHTS

This International Market Insight (IMI) is a compilation of development projects funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). It is distributed monthly to alert U.S. firms to consulting and other procurement opportunities resulting from ADB loan projects, technical assistance (TA) and grants. In 2013, ADB provided \$13.19 billion for loans, \$849 million for grants and \$149 million for TA.¹ This IMI can be your firm's link to these opportunities.

¹ *Statement of the Asian Development Bank's Operations in 2013*

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I. PROJECT LIST BY SECTOR

| Country | Projects | ADB Assistance |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| Note: Click on the project title for full details. | | |
| AGRICULTURE and NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR | | |
| China | Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Land Management in the Western Regions | Technical Assistance |
| Mongolia | Sustainable Forest Management to Improve Livelihood of Local Communities | Technical Assistance |
| Mongolia | Strategic Planning for Peatlands | Technical Assistance |
| Pakistan | Balochistan Water Resources Development Project | Technical Assistance |
| EDUCATION SECTOR | | |
| Regional | Education and Skills for Employment in Central and West Asia | Technical Assistance |
| ENERGY SECTOR | | |
| Afghanistan | Renewable Energy Development | Technical Assistance |
| Bangladesh | Study on Energy Security | Technical Assistance |
| Bangladesh | Enhancing the Institutional Capacity of the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division, Ministry of Planning | Technical Assistance |
| Bangladesh | SASEC Bangladesh-India Electrical Grid Interconnection Project II | Technical Assistance |
| Indonesia | Sustainable and Inclusive Energy Program | Technical Assistance |
| Laos | Second Strengthening Higher Education Project | Technical Assistance |
| Mongolia | Coal to Cleaner Fuel Conversion for Heating in Ger District and Power Generation | Technical Assistance |
| Pakistan | Strengthening the Central Power Purchasing Agency | Technical Assistance |
| Philippines | 150-Megawatt Burgos Wind Farm Project | Assistance to Private Sector |
| Regional | Developing a Framework for a Liquefied Natural Gas Market in Asia | Technical Assistance |
| ENVIRONMENT SECTOR | | |
| Myanmar | Environmental Safeguard Institutional Strengthening | Technical Assistance |
| Sri Lanka | Institutional Development of National Water Supply and Drainage Board | Technical Assistance |
| INDUSTRY, FINANCE, and OTHER SECTORS | | |
| Cambodia | National Rollout of the Regulatory Impact Assessment in Government | Technical Assistance |
| China | Green Finance Reform | Technical Assistance |
| China | Financing Public-Private Partnerships | Technical Assistance |
| India | Infrastructure Development Investment Program for Tourism - Tranche 3 | Loan |
| India | Supporting Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development | Technical Assistance |
| India | Support to Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries | Technical Assistance |
| Indonesia | Strengthening Knowledge Sharing in Indonesia | Technical Assistance |
| Indonesia | Local Government Finance and Governance Reform | Technical Assistance |
| Kyrgyz | Strengthening Government Capacity for Managing Development Projects | Technical Assistance |
| Laos | Strengthening Access to Finance for Micro, Small, and Medium-Sized Enterprises | Technical Assistance |
| Mongolia | Promoting Effectiveness of Development Cooperation | Technical Assistance |
| Mongolia | Ensuring Inclusiveness and Service Delivery for Persons with Disabilities | Technical Assistance |
| Mongolia | Supporting the Credit Guarantee System for Economic Diversification and Employment Project | Technical Assistance |
| Nepal | Enhancing Portfolio Performance | Technical Assistance |
| Pakistan | Public Sector Enterprises Reform Program | Technical Assistance |
| Pakistan | Prioritizing Interventions for Financial Sector Development in Pakistan | Technical Assistance |
| Philippines | Increasing Competitiveness for Inclusive Growth Program (Subprogram 2) | Loan |
| Regional | Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia | Technical Assistance |

| Country | Projects | ADB Assistance |
|---|--|----------------------|
| Note: Click on the project title for full details. | | |
| INDUSTRY, FINANCE, and OTHER SECTORS | | |
| Regional | Establishing an Online Platform for Information Sharing to Enhance SME Exports | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Understanding and Arresting Corruption in ADB-Related Activity | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Technology Transfer for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure Project Development | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Mapping Resilience to Fragility and Conflict in Asia and the Pacific | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Five Decades of Asian Development | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Improving the Performance of Labor Markets in the Pacific | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Enhancing Roles of Supreme Audit Institutions in Selected Association of Southeast Asian Nations Countries | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (Phase 2) | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Enhanced Use of Disaster Risk Information for Decision Making in Southeast Asia | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Piloting a Field-Integrated Review and Standardized Tool for Involuntary Resettlement | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Knowledge for Solutions - South-South Knowledge Sharing Program (Subproject 2) | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Knowledge for Solutions - Partnerships-Centers of Excellence (Subproject 1) | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2016 | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Supporting Industrial Park Development in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Region | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Mekong Business Initiative (MBI) | Technical Assistance |
| Sri Lanka | Improving Project Readiness and Portfolio Management | Technical Assistance |
| Vietnam | SOE Reform and Corporate Governance Facilitation Program - Tranche 2 | Loan |
| Vietnam | Microfinance Development Program Subprogram 2 | Loan |
| Vietnam | Strengthening Financial Markets | Technical Assistance |
| Vietnam | Improving Portfolio Performance and Aid Management | Technical Assistance |
| TRANSPORTATION and COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR | | |
| Azerbaijan | Third Road Network Development Investment Program | Technical Assistance |
| Cambodia | Strengthening Resettlement and Income Restoration Implementation | Technical Assistance |
| Cambodia | Second Road Asset Management Project | Technical Assistance |
| Myanmar | Transport Sector Reform and Modernization | Technical Assistance |
| Pakistan | Peshawar Sustainable Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Enhancing Road Safety for Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Member Countries | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Knowledge for Solutions - Knowledge Portal (Subproject 3) | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Implementation of Sustainable Transport in Asia and the Pacific - New Approaches to Implement Sustainable Low Carbon Transport in the Asia and Pacific Region (Subproject 5) | Technical Assistance |
| Regional | Sector and Thematic Analyses in Policy Development | Technical Assistance |
| Vietnam | Strengthening Sustainable Urban Transport for Ha Noi Metro Line 3 | Loan |
| Vietnam | Ho Chi Minh City Integrated Public Transport Investment Program | Technical Assistance |
| URBAN DEVELOPMENT SECTOR | | |
| Regional | Strengthening Disaster Resilience in Selected Urban Areas of Southeast Asia | Technical Assistance |

II. LOAN

NOTE: Please click on the project title to access full project information.

INDIA

Infrastructure Development Investment Program for Tourism - Tranche 3

Loan No. : 3223
Project No. : 40648-034
Amount (US \$ million) : 123,5
Sector : Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services
Subsector : Urban roads and traffic management; other urban services
Renovation and protection of cultural heritage; urban policy, institutional and capacity development

Responsible ADB Officer: Ron H. Slangen, South Asia Department, Urban Development and Water Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 December 2014.

Description: The proposed Tranche 3 will create tourism support and connectivity infrastructure, support the conservation of cultural and natural heritage, and provide capacity building for improved tourism management.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The proposed project supports the Government's development strategy to achieve inclusive economic growth through the development of tourism related infrastructure and livelihood generation in local communities.

Impact: Increased volume of domestic and international tourists to destinations within the states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Uttarakhand.

Outcome: Enhanced tourism environment in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Uttarakhand

Outputs:

- Enhanced quality of natural and cultural attractions
- Greater participation by local communities in tourism-related economic and livelihood activities
- Improved basic urban infrastructure and incidental services at tourist destinations and gateways
- Improved connectivity to tourist attractions
- Strengthened capacity of sector agencies and local communities for planning, development, management, and marketing of tourist destinations and attractions and promoting private sector participation and small businesses

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=40648-034

PHILIPPINES

Increasing Competitiveness for Inclusive Growth Program (Subprogram 2)

Loan No. : 3233
Project No. : 43396-014
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.35
Sector : Industry and trade
Subsector : Industry and trade sector development

Responsible ADB Officer: Aziz Haydarov, Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The program supports the government's key reform priorities aimed at employment generation by increasing competitiveness in the economy with an inclusive approach through the labor market. The structural reform priorities include efforts to enhance the business climate by promoting competition policy, regulatory efficiency, competitive logistics, and private sector participation in infrastructure projects through public private partnerships (PPPs). The program also supports the government in promoting competitive labor markets by piloting a youth employment program to empower young people to find decent jobs (known as JobStart Philippines) and a tourism-industry-led skills and services development program, and through longer-term labor policy reforms.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Subprogram 2 includes two innovative pilot projects that apply policy in practice, with clearly defined and measurable performance indicators. The two pilot projects are supported by two ADB technical assistance (TA) projects financed by the Government of Canada to the amount of Can\$12.5 million. Each pilot project is subject to an impact evaluation to provide evidence prior to a nationwide rollout of these programs. The first intervention is the youth employment program known as JobStart Philippines. Drawing on successful models in Latin America, Canada, and Europe, JobStart provides job placement assistance to young people. JobStart is currently being piloted in four local government units and helps 1,600 out-of-school youths to find quality jobs. The second innovative intervention is the tourism skills development program, a PPP between the Department of Tourism (DOT), employers, and industry groups, and is being piloted in Bohol, Cebu, Davao, and Palawan, which are fast-growing tourism destinations. The tourism skills development program includes a grants scheme whereby employers can avail of grants to train workers so as to upgrade skills and services.

Impact: Improved investment climate

Outcome: Improved competitiveness of selected sectors

Outputs:

1. Structural policy reforms to promote competitiveness implemented
2. Efficient market for infrastructure projects through PPPs enhanced
3. Competitiveness of labor markets improved

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=43396-014

VIETNAM

A. SOE Reform and Corporate Governance Facilitation Program - Tranche 2

| | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Loan Nos. | : | 3240; 3242 |
| Project No. | : | 39538-035 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 335 |
| Sector | : | Public sector management |
| Subsector | : | Reforms of state owned enterprises |

Responsible ADB Officer: Prasanna Kumar Jena, Southeast Asia Department
Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 16 December 2014.

Description: This is Periodic Financing Request 2 (PFR2) of the multitranche financing facility (MFF) which was approved in December 2009. The overall MFF amount is \$630 million, of which \$600 million is OCR and \$30 million is ADF. The MFF supports the corporate, operational, and financial restructuring of selected state-owned enterprises (SOEs) on a pilot basis with a view to developing a general approach to guide the reform and restructuring of Viet Nam's remaining large SOEs. The pilot program is expected to successfully transform the selected SOEs and thereby strengthen the government's resolve to push ahead with further SOE restructuring. PFR2 is now proposed to be extended to three SOEs - Construction Corporation No. 1 Company Limited, Song Da Corporation (SDC), and Vietnam National Textile and Garment Corporation. The total cost of the proposed PFR2 is estimated at \$320 million equivalent, comprising a \$310 million lending facility from OCR loans to the government to on-lend to the participating SOEs, and \$10 million from ADF.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:

- Strategic Context and Policy Framework for SOE Reforms since 2009 - SOE restructuring is a strategic goal of the 2011 -2015 Socio-Economic Development Plan. A number of key legislative and policy initiative (decrees, decisions and circulars) have been introduced and adopted to improve the governance, oversight and management of SOEs. Prime Minister's Decision (PM Decision) 929 of July 2012 provides the strategic direction for SOE reforms and sets a deadline for preparing restructuring plans and for initiating divestment of non-core investments. To support this effort, as of December 2013, about 60% of state economic groups and general corporations have had their restructuring plans approved. PM Decision (339/QDD-TTg) of 19 February 2013 also put restructuring of SOEs as one of three pillars of economic restructuring alongside banking sector restructuring and public spending restructuring to transform the economy and improve its competitiveness for the period 2013- 2020. As the lead agency for coordination and oversight of the restructuring process, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) has finalized the SOE Reform Roadmap which highlights the key roles of line ministries/owners and enterprises to facilitate an enabling environment and to undertake specific structural reforms. A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework that provides key performance indicators to monitor the overall progress of the restructuring and support performance management at individual SOE and line ministry/owner level is under finalization, and its implementation is likely to commence from the 3rd quarter of 2014.
- ADB support: ADB's Country Partnership and Strategy 2012- 2015, and the Country Operational Business Plan 2012 -2014, underline SOE reform as central to its strategy for business development and private-sector-led employment growth. Within this framework, ADB has been supporting economic reforms and private sector developments through a number of programs focused on SOE restructuring, development of microfinance, SME development, and financial sector reforms. ADB has committed significant investments to the pilot restructuring of selected SOEs and is also providing capacity-building support to the management of pilot SOEs being restructured. Continuing support and sustained engagement in these sectors will be essential to continuing progress in the SOE sector.

Impact: improved profitability and transparency of equitized and restructured SOEs, including large general corporations and their subsidiaries.

Outcome: Participating general corporations are transformed into focused, efficient businesses with strong balance sheets and improved corporate governance.

Outputs: Debt restructuring implemented, combining financial and corporate restructuring increased operational efficiency and improved corporate governance of general corporations and other SOEs.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=39538-035

B. Strengthening Sustainable Urban Transport for Ha Noi Metro Line 3

Loan Nos. : 3235; 8291
Project No. : 40080-024
Amount (US \$ million) : 4.2
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Transport

Responsible ADB Officer: Arto T. Ahonen, Southeast Asia Department, Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The Project will develop an integrated public transport system in five districts of Ha Noi that will support effective utilization of Ha Noi metro Line 3. Improved public transport will facilitate public transport connectivity and greatly enhance access in five districts of Ha Noi, as well as support the Ha Noi Urban Transport Master Plan (HUTMP) objective of increasing ridership on public transport to over 40% of demand and reducing dependency on vehicle ownership. The Project will support Ha Noi's climate change mitigation efforts in adopting a low carbon transport growth path, which is more energy efficient and lowers GHG emissions. The Project will provide infrastructure for improving accessibility to Metro Line 3 stations, implement feeder bus links, a public transport management system, integrated multi-modal stations with "park and ride" facilities, as well as a comprehensive parking plan for the city. The project components, public transport services and other facilities will be designed to incorporate gender sensitive features that will complement similar measures under the Metro Line 3 project. In addition, any policy and regulatory measures developed will be fully inclusive. The proposed project management and institutional capacity building measures for Metro line 3, together with expected policy and regulatory reforms, will also help achieve an improved public transport system and reduce GHG emissions. ADB proposes concurrent assistance to develop sustainable urban transport in Ho Chi Minh City for mass rapid transit line 2, and both projects preparation and implementation will be closely coordinated, including between respective city governments. The Project outputs will be: (i) improved accessibility features in and around metro stations; (ii) integrated and innovative public transport services and measures connecting to metro stations; and (iii) support for transformational policies and regulatory measures to encourage modal shift to public transportation modes. Measures related to the bus system will be closely coordinated with ongoing institutional reform and system improvements.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Ha Noi is at an early stage of transport urbanization, having moved from heavy usage of bicycles to motorcycles in the last 10 years and now increasingly cars. Private vehicles dominate urban transportation, with motorcycles being the most prevalent means at about 80% share. Continued increasing car ownership, together with significant increase in number of motorcycles, has resulted in severe congestion during peak hours with poor urban environment and road safety. The situation is expected to worsen if current transport growth trend of 9% continues and more motorbike owners convert to cars. The existing public transport system consists of a poor and badly integrated bus network that is not really competitive with private transport modes,

although under an ongoing World Bank loan is expected to improve the bus system by 2016. Traffic planning and parking management is weak and inadequate to effectively control traffic and demand. Importantly, there is no policy and regulatory measures to discourage private transport modes and the inadequate public transport system cannot attract people using private vehicles. Ha Noi People's Committee (HPC) has plans to invest in mass transit system, with four metro lines under phase 1 development. Construction of phase 1 for Metro Line 3 is financed by ADB, Agence Francaise de D'veloppement (AFD), European Investment Bank and Direction Generale du Tresor, with works commenced in October 2010 and the expecting to be operating in 2016. The three other metro lines are expected to be completed by 2020. However there is a need to carefully design complementary measures to ensure the emergence of an integrated public transport system that is attractive, accessible and affordable and build upon other small scale technical assistance provided by AFD and French city-to-city cooperation program to improve public transport. The Project will directly support integration of Metro Line 3 as part of a multimodal, environmental friendly transport system to attract passengers to urban public transport services to promote inclusive low carbon transport thus reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and environmental pollution.

Impact: Enhanced public transport system serving six districts of Ha Noi

Outcome: Improved integration of metro line 3 stations with other modes of public transport

Outputs: Metro Line 3 station access improved Public transport system improved Public transport policy developed

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=40080-024

C. Microfinance Development Program Subprogram 2

Loan No. : 3213
Project No. : 42235-023
Amount (US \$ million) : 50
Sector : Finance
Subsector : Finance sector development

Responsible ADB Officer: Eiichi Sasaki, Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 9 December 2014.

Description: The programmatic approach consists of two subprograms sequenced to support the government in developing a sustainable market-oriented microfinance along the line with the Vietnam Microfinance Development Strategy, 2011-2020, focusing on the: (i) creation of a supportive policy and regulatory environment; (ii) enhancement of the supervisory and regulatory capacities; (iii) strengthening of microfinance involved financial institutions; and (iv) development of financial infrastructure. The proposed policy-based loan will support subprogram 2. The Country Partnership Strategy 2011-2015 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) highlights the microfinance sector as a key area for ADB assistance.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: ADB Special Evaluation Study on Microfinance Development Strategy found that as of 2010, Viet Nam attained a much higher penetration rate of 75% of microcredit delivery amongst the poor relative to comparable Asian countries. Microcredit outreach of the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies (VBSP) is remarkable having presence in 98% of 11,000 communes with almost 7 million borrowers, of which 50% are categorized as poor. VBSP has a dominant share of 67% of total microfinance borrowers and 65% of outstanding microfinance loans in 2010. The notably high outreach of microcredit delivery has, however, resulted in adverse impacts: (i) increased fiscal burden through financing operations and interest rate subsidies, and budget allocation to lending

resources, making the system unsustainable; and (ii) uneven playing field with the state driven approach discouraging the entry and expansion of market-based financial institutions. With persistent budget deficit recorded since 2009, the sustainability of VBSP came at risk. To address this risk, the government refocused microfinance as a formal banking service from a social protection tool in 2010. This policy change was a timely response to the rising demands of low-income household and microenterprise clients needing diverse financial services suitable to them. The new direction called for a sector wide reform aiming to transform the state-led credit delivery to a wider variety of market-driven financial services including savings, credit, remittances and insurance. It was against this background that the Vietnam Microfinance Development Strategy, 2011-2020 was formulated with ADB assistance and announced by the Prime Minister in December 2011. The national strategy provides a roadmap to a market oriented sector, relying more on the self-sustaining players in providing market based financial services, while the government providing an enabling environment through regulations and supervision, capacity development, and financial infrastructure supportive to microfinance. The implementation of the Vietnam Microfinance Development Strategy, 2011-2020 is guided by high level Microfinance Working Committee to provide policy advice and coordination to the microfinance development work plan. On 5 July 2012, ADB approved Microfinance Development Program Programmatic Approach and \$40 million policy-based loan for subprogram 1 and \$0.5 million piggy-backed TA. It was the first full scale ADB assistance after over a decade long technical assistance in nurturing formal microfinance institutions (MFIs). The program supports the government's initiatives to develop a vibrant microfinance sector and improve access to formal financial services for the poor, especially in rural areas. It aims to promote a fair competition among diverse financial institutions, and support the market orientation in microfinance, thereby gradually reducing the government's direct involvement in microfinance operations. Following the achievements in Subprogram 1, Subprogram 2 has continued to support the government in implementing the comprehensive microfinance sector reform by focusing on the 4 broad areas above, aiming to achieve self-sustaining operations and improved financial services, leading to greater financial inclusion, and deepened financial sector.

Impact: Greater financial inclusion and deepened financial sector

Outcome: Increased access of poor women and men to sustainable and affordable microfinance services

Outputs:

- Creating a policy and regulatory environment conducive to an inclusive, sustainable and market-oriented microfinance sector
- Strengthening the supervisory and regulatory capacities of microfinance sector regulators
- Strengthening credit institutions involved in microfinance to provide affordable and sustainable services to the poor
- Developed infrastructure supportive of the microfinance activities

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=42235-023

III. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

PLEASE NOTE: Please click on the project title to access full project information. Technical assistance (TA) is used to prepare and implement projects, and support advisory and regional activities of the bank. ADB is no longer issuing TA project alerts classified according to type, i.e., project preparatory technical assistance (PPTA), advisory technical assistance (ADTA), etc. If you want to know the specific TA classification, please contact our office or inquire directly with the bank.

AFGHANISTAN

Renewable Energy Development

TA No. : 8808
Project No. : 47266-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Road transport (non-rban)

Responsible ADB Officer: Jiwan S. Acharya, Central and West Asia Department, Energy Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The technical assistance (TA) aims to increase share of renewable energy in Afghanistan by developing a roadmap, developing hybrid wind/solar/diesel renewable energy projects, and increasing the necessary institutional capacity in the country. The TA will build on previous work and complement ongoing efforts of MEW and other development partners that will contribute to and benefit from ADB's broader Clean Energy and Energy for All programs.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Afghanistan is a net energy and electricity importer. While renewable energy and fossil fuel resources exist, exploitation is still in its infancy. The growing demand is met by electricity imports which represented 78% of total supply in 2013. By 2032, demand is forecast to reach 3,500 MW and electric consumption 18,400 GWh. Meeting this demand requires all viable import and domestic sources to be developed and corresponding transmission lines and distribution systems to be expanded together with mini grids and off grids systems where grid cannot be extended in the near future.

Impact: Increased access to renewable energy in Afghanistan

Outcome: Increased readiness for renewable energy development investments, both public and private, in Afghanistan

Outputs:

- Renewable energy road map for Afghanistan developed
- Report on renewable energy resource and technology assessment in identified areas completed
- Capacity to plan and implement renewable energy projects improved

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=47266-001

AZERBAIJAN

Third Road Network Development Investment Program

TA No. : 8790
Project No. : 47372-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.4
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Road transport (non-rban)

Responsible ADB Officer: Zheng Wu, Central and West Asia Department, Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: Major activities of the project preparatory technical assistance (PPTA) are: (i) inception, (ii) feasibility study, and (iii) investment program design. These include: (i) for inception, the preparatory activities; (ii) for the feasibility study, the activities for investment program preparation, covering engineering, economic, institutional and procurement, social, resettlement, climate, and environmental aspects and their due diligence. The engineering study will include geological, topographical, hydrological surveys, preliminary pavement design, cost estimates, and implementation plan. The economic study will conduct traffic surveys and the economic feasibility. The social and environmental studies will prepare environmental assessment, poverty and social assessment, gender analysis and action plan, and resettlement plans, creation of a stakeholder communication and engagement plans; The institutional feasibility study will cover the current institutional arrangements for project implementation, asset management including maintenance, SWOT analysis and implementation plan. The procurement study will assess current procurement arrangements, identify areas and reasons for delays, and develop procurement mechanisms/plans; and (iii) for investment program design, preparation of draft report and recommendation of the president, and the facility administration manual (FAM).

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The Investment Program will widen access to social and economic opportunities via improved road infrastructure in Azerbaijan, and promote regional cooperation and integration. Built on the progress of first Road Network Development Program, Second Road Network Development Investment Program, and through a holistic road subsector based approach involving physical investment and capacity development, the road network will become more effective and efficient. The investment program fits well with the Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy and action plan under the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC). The investment program also strengthens the government's capacity in implementation, network management, and governance in the road subsector. The transport sector plays an important role in Azerbaijan's economy, accounting for about 6% of the gross domestic product (GDP). Roads are the dominant mode of freight and passenger transport. The country occupies an important geographical position for transit routes with roads and railway lines connecting the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. Thus, the transport sector contributes to regional cooperation by facilitating the development of international trade. The sector is also crucial to the domestic economy since it links the rural population to urban and international markets. The development of road transport infrastructure is part of six major strategic pillars of the State Program on Poverty Reduction and Economic Development (SPPRED), and is critical for the improvement of non-oil sector and the living standards of low-income population. The Government of Azerbaijan has requested ADB the project preparatory technical assistance (TA) to prepare investment program. ADB support in the form of TA is necessary to complete the due diligence in economic and financial, safeguards and poverty areas, and procurement. This TA will review technical due diligence including tolling systems, implementation periods for all tranches in the investment program and support in achieving the readiness for tranche 1.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=47372-001

BANGLADESH

A. Study on Energy Security

TA No. : 8839
Project No. : 48277-004
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Energy
Subsector : Conventional energy generation; Energy sector development and institutional reform

Responsible ADB Officer: Priyantha D.C. Wijayatunga, South Asia Department, Energy Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 17 December 2014.

Description:

a. Link to Country Partnership Strategy/Regional Cooperation Strategy: The proposed capacity development technical assistance (TA) will conduct a study on the security of energy supplies in Bangladesh. The government has adopted a comprehensive energy development strategy as part of its Sixth Five-Year Plan. It includes measures to boost power supply emphasizing, among others, diversified primary energy sources. The government will try to exploit all forms of primary energy. Building on this plan, the Government has now decided to increase electricity generating capacity based on different primary energy supply options, with an additional 15,000 megawatts by 2016. Implementation of this plan can be facilitated by a systematic study on energy security with the intention of diversifying the primary energy sources. The study can be taken forward by conducting feasibility studies on high priority power generation projects identified based on the recommendations. These studies are aligned with ADB's country strategy where key interventions in the energy sector include, among others, investments in new power-generating facilities.

b. Impact: The impact will be enhanced primary fuel diversification in Bangladesh's power sector. The indicator will be at least one project recommended by the study is commissioned by 2022.

c. Outcome: The outcome of the TA will be capacity of the Power Division of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources to diversify fuel sources for power generation increased. The indicator will be inclusion of the recommendations of the study included in an updated optimal power generation plan by 2017. This will enable Bangladesh to diversify fuel sources in its power generation system which will lead to greater reliability and adequate power supplies.

d. Outputs: The output of the TA will be: (i) understanding of the overall security of energy supplies in Bangladesh improved, and (ii) of the most attractive base load generation options confirmed with specific case studies provided. The indicators will be the final energy security study report submitted to the Power Division of the Ministry of Power, Energy, and Mineral Resources by 2017 and feasibility study report(s) of the specific case studies submitted to the Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources by 2017.

Impact: Enhanced primary fuel diversification in Bangladesh's power sector

Outcome: Increased capacity of the Power Division of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources to diversify fuel sources for power generation

Outputs:

1. Understanding of the overall security of energy supplies in Bangladesh improved
2. Feasibility of the most attractive base load generation options confirmed with specific case studies provided

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48277-004

B. Enhancing the Institutional Capacity of the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division, Ministry of Planning

TA No. : 8840
Project No. : 48139-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.5
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Public administration

Responsible ADB Officer: Shamsur Rahman, South Asia Department, Bangladesh Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The proposed TA builds on the success of two previous similar TAs: Strengthening Project Portfolio Performance (TA 3336-BAN), completed in August 2006 and Strengthening Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation Project (TA 4880-BAN), completed in June 2010. The first TA enhanced project monitoring capacity of IMED through strengthening of its project management information system (MIS), specifically for ADB's portfolio in Bangladesh. The second TA assisted IMED in developing a strategic plan for capacity building for results-based monitoring in all sectors, and implemented training programs to deepen the knowledge of IMED staff in project design, implementation and monitoring, based on the principle of a results-based approach. Through the proposed TA, the government is now seeking ADB's further support to operationalize the strategic plan of IMED, further improve its RBME capacity for technical projects, strengthen RBME system, and standardize logical frameworks in project formulation for higher project readiness and project quality and improve IMED capacity for technical audits.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The proposed TA supports the government's 6th Five-Year Plan FY2011-FY2015, which emphasizes the need to increase capacity for evidence-based decision-making through the use of robust results-based monitoring and evaluation systems. It also addresses good governance and capacity development, one of the key thematic drivers of ADB's Country Partnership Strategy 2011-2015.

Impact: RBME mainstreamed in development planning in Bangladesh

Outcome: IMED's capacity for results-based monitoring of projects and programs is improved

Outputs:

- IMED's Strategic Plan, 2008- 2013 implemented
- Logical framework for project design improved
- Training programs on technical audits implemented
- Information system improved
- RBME integrated in the Seventh Five-Year Plan, FY2016- FY2020

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48139-001

C. SASEC Bangladesh-India Electrical Grid Interconnection Project II

TA No. : 8823
Project No. : 44192-017
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.2
Sector : Energy
Subsector : Electricity transmission and distribution

Responsible ADB Officer: Len V. George, South Asia Department, Energy Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Bangladesh India Electrical Grid Interconnection Project II (the Project) will upgrade the power transmission capacity of the existing Bangladesh and India grid interconnection from 500 megawatt (MW) to 1000 MW. This will allow Bangladesh to increase the import of electricity from India to meet the deficit from increased power demand. The power grid of Bangladesh at Bheramara and the eastern power grid of India at Baharampur were first successfully interconnected in 2013, financed by an ADB loan.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Bangladesh is unable to meet current demand for electricity and the demand-supply gap is widening. The government set an ambitious target to achieve electricity for all by 2021 (50 years since independence) and initiated several projects to add new generating capacity to meet an expected 19 gigawatt (GW) power demand by 2021, including rehabilitation of existing power plants, setting up of large coal projects and creating inter country grid interconnections. However, growing electricity demand coupled with increased requirements for natural gas in other sectors resulted in shortages of about 1000 MW of electricity in the latter half of 2014 impacting economic performance, business competitiveness, productivity and quality of life.

Impact: Increased capacity for cross boarder power trading

Outcome: Project design for cross-border power trade between Bangladesh and India completed

Outputs: Due Diligence of Bahrampur Bheramara Power Transmission link undertaken

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=44192-017

CAMBODIA

A. Strengthening Resettlement and Income Restoration Implementation

TA No. : 8810
Project No. : 37269-054
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.4
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Rail transport (non-urban)

Responsible ADB Officer: Munawar Alam, Southeast Asia Department
Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The technical assistance (TA) will increase the capacity of IRC in implementing resettlement including grievance redress and income restoration for the GMS: Rehabilitation of the Railway in

Cambodia Project (the Project) and future projects with resettlement impacts. Its outputs are in terms of assisting IRC in developing and implementing three time-bound verifiable action plans for: (i) grievance redress in the Project, (ii) building capacity for resettlement, and (iii) a sustained and sustainable EIRP.

Impact: Enhanced capacity of the government to effectively implement resettlement activities in transport projects in Cambodia

Outcome: Enhanced institutional and staff capacity of the IRC to improve the functioning of the grievance redress mechanism (GRM), implement resettlement programs, and implement the expanded income restoration program (EIRP) in a sustained and sustainable manner

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=37269-054

B. National Rollout of the Regulatory Impact Assessment in Government

TA No. : **8834**
Project No. : **48298-001**
Amount (US \$ million) : **0.8**
Sector : **Public sector management**
Subsector : **Economic affairs management**

Responsible ADB Officer: Kelly Bird, Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: In February 2014, the Office of the Council of Ministers (OCM) asked the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for technical assistance (TA) to support the national rollout of the regulatory impact assessment (RIA) program to the executive government commencing in 2015. In response, ADB conducted a fact-finding mission in June 2014; during that mission ADB and OCM agreed on the proposed impact, outcome and outputs, implementation arrangements, cost, financing arrangements, and terms of reference as laid out in the approved concept paper. The government's planned rollout of RIA to 23 line ministries builds on OCM's experience in piloting RIA in 7 line ministries from 2011 to 2014 with technical assistance from ADB under Grant 0224. Previous consultations on plans for a national rollout were held on an intermittent basis from February 2013 to February 2014 and benefitted from previous Grant 0224 implementation review missions.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Cambodia continues to reform its economy to raise competitiveness for private sector development and considers improving the quality of regulation making central to its economic and governance reform agenda. While there have been successful reforms in specific sectors, such as the enterprise law, the licensing and permit requirements in doing business in Cambodia are substantial and do impose a significant burden on investors and small and medium-sized enterprises in particular. The Government of Cambodia is currently piloting a regulatory impact assessment (RIA) project as one of its approaches to addressing the high cost of doing business in Cambodia. The pilot project is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2015. The RIA program aims to assist government improve the quality of regulation making by following a systematic regulatory review process including an assessment of the net benefits of the regulation to the economy. A systematic approach to public consultations on regulations is part of the regulatory review process. The RIA reform was initiated by OCM in 2010 when it established the Office of Regulatory Impact Assessment (ORIA) and piloted RIA in four line ministries with ADB assistance under Grant 0224. In January 2014, OCM extended the pilot to seven line ministries. The RIA system being piloted by OCM draws on good international practice. It includes the establishment of the ORIA at the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) in OCM, which champions the RIA initiative in government, produces RIA guidelines, monitoring participating ministries compliance with RIA guidelines, providing training and other capacity development activities to the ministries and takes responsibility for public awareness and

education on good practice regulation. Each participating line ministry is responsible for carrying out RIA on a selection of existing or proposed regulations or bills and submits these with the draft regulation to the concerned minister as part of the decision making process. The main objectives of the RIA system and documentation is to enhance transparency in the regulation making process and promote a more systematic way to assess the impact of regulations and consultations for improved decision making.

Impact: Quality of laws and regulations improved

Outcome: Institutional architecture for reviewing regulatory proposals strengthened

Outputs:

- Capacity of staff at the Office of RIA developed
- Capacity of staff in line ministries developed
- Public outreach developed

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48298-001

C. Second Road Asset Management Project

TA No. : 8784
Project No. : 41123-014
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.85
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Road transport (non-urban)

Responsible ADB Officer: Shihiru Date, Southeast Asia Department
Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 December 2014.

Description: The project aims to assist the Government of Cambodia with periodic maintenance of the national and provincial roads administered by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT). The project will: (i) assist MPWT in periodic maintenance of about 515 km of MPWT roads; and (ii) help to create a sustainable road maintenance regime by strengthening capacity at MPWT to - (a) improve the maintenance and management of its road network; (b) strengthen axle load control operations; and (c) further strengthen the process of privatizing MPWT's force account units. The project will also support a community-based road safety program, and an HIV/AIDS and human trafficking prevention program, with sufficient gender considerations.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Roads are the principal mode of transport in Cambodia. The country's road network of 51,764 km includes: (i) about 5,623 km of national roads; (ii) about 6,641 km of provincial roads; and (iii) about 39,500 km of rural roads.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=41123-014

CHINA

A. Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Land Management in the Western Regions

| | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| TA No. | : | 8872 |
| Project No. | : | 48116-001 |
| Sector | : | Agriculture, natural resources and rural development |
| Subsector | : | Land-based natural resources management |

Responsible ADB Officer: Frank Radstake, East Asia Department
Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 9 January 2015.

Description: In 2012, the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) asked the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to provide capacity development technical assistance (TA) for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Land Management in Western PRC. The TA, financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), will complement government efforts to expand the regional scope of the PRC GEF Partnership on Land Degradation in Dryland Ecosystems and support sustainable land management (SLM) investments in selected provinces and autonomous regions. In February 2014, an ADB mission visited the PRC and reached an understanding with the government on the TA impact, outcome, outputs, cost estimates, financing plan, Terms of Reference for consultants, and implementation arrangements, including TA delegation.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The PRC GEF partnership, initiated as a long-term cooperation agreement between the PRC, the GEF, ADB, and other development partners, promotes the introduction of integrated ecosystem management and SLM approaches to combat land degradation. It plays a key role in the PRC's efforts to enhance ecological civilization, improve dryland ecosystems, and reduce poverty in the PRC's western regions, where approximately 75% of the PRC's rural poor reside. The long-term programmatic approach was institutionalized for the provinces through mainstreaming strategies and action plans to ensure investment and financial flows for SLM and livelihood activities. The SLM practices applied in pilots and investment programs include reforestation, soil erosion control measures, greenhouses for vegetable production, mulching, grazing management, and irrigation control. These practices have been implemented alongside rural infrastructure, energy, biogas, solar energy, and other development activities for income generation and to improve livelihoods in the pilot sites. Policy options, legislation, thematic studies, capacity development, and knowledge management supported the activities. The achievements and experiences under the partnership are documented in various national and international publications. Building on the work of the partnership since its establishment in 2002, ADB provided policy and advisory TA for the Integrated Strategy for Sustainable Land Management in Dryland Ecosystems. The new and broader-reaching strategy for the partnership: (i) focuses on replicating and upscaling the achievements of the partnership, with a strong emphasis on provincial investments; (ii) targets capacity development and its linkage to demonstration and investment activities; (iii) adopts a broader financial resource mobilization strategy, taking into consideration government, private sector, and development partner resources, and innovative mechanisms like eco-compensation programs; and (iv) has a stronger link with the PRC's National Action Plan for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and close alignment with the secretariat of the PRC national committee for implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in the State Forestry Administration (SFA). Through continued support for the partnership, ADB aims to support the PRC's sustainable development agenda, as presented during the Third Plenum of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Climate change and environmental sustainability are key considerations, including greater preparedness for extreme weather events and conservation of natural resources. The TA is also in line with ADB's country partnership strategy, 2011-2015 and the country operations business plan, 2014-2106 for the PRC in supporting the government's overarching strategic goal by focusing on inclusive and environmentally sustainable growth.

Impact: Degraded lands restored and local livelihood improved in the project areas in western PRC

Outcome: Strengthened capacity of the PRC government to introduce innovations in sustainable and climate-resilient land management

Outputs:

1. Resilience of landscape ecosystems to climate change improved (Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region; and Gansu, Qinghai, and Shaanxi provinces)
2. Management of degraded lands to support rural livelihoods and green development improved (Guizhou and Sichuan provinces)
3. Enabling environment and capacity for scaling up of SLM in Guizhou and Sichuan provinces enhanced
4. Project management supported

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48116-001

B. Green Finance Reform

TA No. : 8866
Project No. : 48420-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.23
Sector : Finance
Subsector : Finance sector development

Responsible ADB Officer: Seung Min Lee, East Asia Department, Public Mgt, Financial Sector and Regional Coop Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 23 December 2014.

Project details to be determined.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48420-001

C. Financing Public-Private Partnerships

TA No. : 8869
Project No. : 48377-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.4
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Public administration

Responsible ADB Officer: Craig Sugden, East Asia Department
Public Mgt, Financial Sector and Regional Coop Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 23 December 2014.

Impact: Improved operational framework for the government to provide financial support to PPPs

Outcome: Consideration by decision-makers of new tools for government to provide financial support to PPPs

Outputs:

1. Assessment of the international experience with funds providing government financial support to PPPs
2. Options analysis of funds for providing government financial support to PPPs
3. Design and operating procedures of a fund for providing government financial support to PPPs
4. Comparison of a PPP fund with direct budget support to PPPs
5. Widely accessible publication on PPP funds

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48377-001

INDIA

A. Supporting Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development

TA No. : 8799
Project No. : 48230-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : **Education; Energy; Health and social protection; Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services**
Subsector : **Education sector development; Energy sector development and institutional reform; Renewable energy generation - biomass and waste; Health system development; Multimodal logistics; Transport policies and institutional development; Water transport (non-urban); Urban policy, institutional and capacity development; Urban sanitation; Urban sewerage; Urban solid waste management; Urban water supply**

Responsible ADB Officer: Paolo Spantigati, South Asia Department, India Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The technical assistance (TA) builds on the experiences with the first phase of Department of Economic Affairs (DEA)-Asian Development Bank (ADB) PPP Initiative and helps address the emerging challenges to ensure long-term impact of the PPP Initiative. The TA will: (i) provide focused support to selected states and central line ministries with emphasis on actual delivery of projects through PPP experts; (ii) assist at the central level, DEA PPP cell, to continue to play its crucial role of structuring and appraising new PPP projects, and supporting a PPP enabling environment; (iii) help DEA support transitioning to 3P India, which would be a sustainable model for providing long-term support for PPPs.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been assisting the Government of India's (GoI) public-private partnership (PPP) program to meet the country's large infrastructure needs. The GoI-ADB initiative in mainstreaming of PPPs has been an evolving and programmatic approach, supported through a series of TAs, for developing an enabling environment for PPPs in the country. Following a joint stock-taking exercise by the GoI and ADB of first phase of ADB support to the GoI for mainstreaming PPPs, the GoI requested ADB for a new TA support to further the PPP agenda. The TA builds on the experiences with the first phase of DEA-ADB PPP Initiative and helps address the emerging challenges to ensure long-term impact of the PPP Initiative. The TA is in line with ADB's Country Partnership Strategy (CPS), 2013-2017 that: (i) has as one of the thrust areas, robust infrastructure development to support the government's vision of faster, more inclusive, and sustainable growth; and (ii) mentions that ADB will support the government's agenda of reinvigorating PPPs and build on its PPP-related work.

Impact: Increased availability of infrastructure through PPPs

Outcome: Improved public sector capacity to develop and implement infrastructure PPP projects

Outputs:

1. Transition to 3P India supported
2. Prototype PPP cells developed
3. Appraisals and risk evaluation of PPP projects facilitated
4. PPP enabling frameworks and tools developed

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48230-001

B. Support to Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries

TA No. : **8787**
Project No. : **48352-003**
Amount (US \$ million) : **0.23**
Sector : **Public sector management**
Subsector : **Public sector management**

Responsible ADB Officer: Vivek Rao, South Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: There are several areas that need further development before the scheme can take off, as these aspects were not studied when designing the original or expanded version of SFURTI: (i) there is no previous evidence of private equity interest in traditional sectors and no market scoping of potential private partners has been undertaken; (ii) the revenue model is uncertain as there has been no marketing outreach to determine strength of cash flows of the clusters; (iii) it is uncertain why and how private sector players will be interested in acquiring a minority stake in the cluster SPVs without a compelling business case; (iv) while potential interest might exist in a few cases where major players can integrate their value chain with the products (such as agricultural commodities) developed by the cluster SPVs, this is unlikely for all products; (v) it is unclear if the scale of interventions envisaged under the scheme would be adequate to meet intended objectives; (vi) the willingness of the private sector to commit to the task of functioning as nodal agencies is unclear as there does not appear, a priori, to be a strong business case; and (vii) given competing uses of land, for e.g., it is uncertain why private parties, as nodal agencies would commit land to this initiative where returns are uncertain, as is envisaged in the scheme. Given the above uncertainties, it is necessary to understand the sector and develop a strong business case for private sector participation, as well as to analyze if the current arrangements need modification in any way. The willingness of the private sector to commit CSR funds also needs to be examined. The revenue model also needs to be understood and a market assessment is required to determine the strength of cash flows under different scenarios. In light of the above, it may also be highlighted that there is likely limited understanding and appreciation of the rural artisans in operating commercially. In addition, ADB also has limited experience in supporting schemes in the rural and traditional sectors. A case in point is the Khadi Reform and Development Program that has significant implementation challenges.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The development of traditional village industries holds significant potential for energizing the rural economy and the proposed scheme is designed to realize this potential by technology upgrade and marketing support. There has been a secular upward trend in employment generation and production by micro, small and medium enterprises MSMEs and village industries. The number of MSMEs increased by 19.30% and the number of people employed increased from around 60 million to over 70 million during FY2007-FY2011. The scheme thus supports talent and creativity of mostly women rural artisans in food products, handicrafts, and leather goods.

Impact: Appropriately designed project that supports the government SFURTI program in India

Outcome: A well prepared business case for a proposed project for SFURTI that reflects gender-based and market-related sector challenges

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48352-003

INDONESIA

A. Sustainable and Inclusive Energy Program

TA No. : 8826
Project No. : 48323-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Energy
Subsector : Energy sector development and institutional reform

Responsible ADB Officer: Pradeep Tharakan, Southeast Asia Department, Energy Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Impact: A more sustainable and inclusive energy sector created

Outcome: A regulatory framework and policy actions for a more sustainable and inclusive energy supply prepared

Outputs:

1. More efficient energy markets enabled
2. Road map for transitioning to cost-reflective electricity tariffs and energy prices developed
3. Appropriate incentives and programs for scaling up grid-connected renewable electricity supply developed
4. Regulatory and institutional framework for expanding energy access in Eastern Indonesia designed

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48323-001

B. Strengthening Knowledge Sharing in Indonesia

TA No. : 8858
Project No. : 48172-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.73
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Economic affairs management; Public administration; Public expenditure and fiscal management

Responsible ADB Officer: Anthony Robert Gill, Southeast Asia Department, Indonesia Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 19 December 2014.

Description: To meet the growing demand for knowledge products and services the proposed technical assistance will: (i) facilitate AAA policy dialogue with the government; (ii) support immediate requests for knowledge services such as just in time knowledge, conferences and high level policy discussions with eminent persons; and (iii) strengthen the delivery of development support. The technical assistance will ensure improved, high quality knowledge products meet country needs and demands with timely delivery

and targeted dissemination. To provide these services the technical assistance will: (i) access eminent persons regionally and globally, to respond to government requests for advice; (ii) access ADB communities of practice and internal expertise; (iii) respond to planned and unplanned and unplanned research and analysis; and improve the dissemination of knowledge products.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Indonesia faces a number of development challenges and the government is looking for new solutions to these problems, ways to innovate and ways to scale up their responses. They wish to learn from the experiences in the region and share their lessons. The public policy development process will change. The government seeks a more informed consultation process. They look to regionally experienced and trusted development partners such as ADB for support. Providing support to public policy development and analysis of development constraints will come in two primary forms, that is, analysis of structural change which will require detailed analysis and consideration and ad-hoc advisory services. These ad-hoc advisory services are referred to by the government as Just in Time knowledge as it cannot be planned and scheduled. Undertaking analysis and providing ADB's support as a knowledge bank is being requested by the government. How the information is disseminated turns it into knowledge. Indonesia's pace of change is speeding up and it is expected to accelerate. Indonesia requires quick and ready answers to complex issues. It requires them in forms that are easily received by key decision makers. It requires them from partners they trust and who can respond quickly. A mechanism to provide this support must have the flexibility to meet this dynamic environment while also providing the more traditional detailed analysis and reporting.

Impact: Improved knowledge-based policy dialogue

Outcome: Strengthened knowledge management and sharing in Indonesia

Outputs:

- Delivery of annual knowledge plan
- Provide responses to Just-in-Time knowledge requests
- TA products disseminated

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48172-001

C. Local Government Finance and Governance Reform

TA No. : **8057**
Project No. : **42221-022**
Amount (US \$ million) : **0.2**
Sector : **Public sector management**
Subsector : **Economic affairs management**

Responsible ADB Officer: Rabin Hattari, Southeast Asia Department, Indonesia Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 29 December 2014.

Impact: Improved access to and coverage of basic public services to local communities

Outcome: Enhanced management and coordination of fiscal decentralization reforms

Outputs:

- Efficient devolution of the property taxes
- Rationalized and better coordinated approaches to key intergovernmental transfer mechanisms
- Improved PFM in local governments

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=42221-022

KYRGYZ

Strengthening Government Capacity for Managing Development Projects

TA No. : 8783
Project No. : 48038-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.6
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Economic affairs management; Public administration; Public expenditure and fiscal management

Responsible ADB Officer: Mart Khaltarpurev, Central and West Asia Department, Kyrgyz Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 4 December 2014.

Description: ADB's Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) for 2013-2017 highlighted the government's capacity constraints as a major risk in implementing the CPS effectively and proposed to address them through capacity development technical assistance (TA). With 86.8% of the total CPS envelope intended for infrastructure and education sectors in coming years, continued improvements in project management and monitoring capacity for those sectors are critical. Consequently, the need for a TA to further improve government capacity, ownership and accountability in project management was included in the Country Operations Business Plan for 2014-2016. Through several TA projects implemented during 2000-2008, ADB supported the government in strengthening its institutional capacity for public investment planning and management; management and monitoring of externally assisted projects; and results monitoring and evaluation of the country development programs at national and regional level. While the operational framework remains in place, the capacity to introduce good practice and deliver on responsibilities, developed under these former TAs, has declined due to instability caused by the 2005 and 2010 political crises, frequent changes of government and high turnover of staff. Based on ADB's experience and lessons learnt from these previous interventions, the proposed TA will re-strengthen the government's capacity to manage projects and their development results through updating and modernizing the current operational procedures, institutionalizing systems and training, enhancing the skills and competence of staff, and providing knowledge support for developing local supply market capacity and adoption of international good practices. The TA impact will be improved governance and implementation effectiveness of development projects in key sectors. The outcome will be strengthened government capacity for managing development projects.

Following outputs are expected:

1. Policy guidelines and procedures for managing development projects improved - The TA will develop the Government Guidelines for Development Project Management (GDPM), which will explain the main principles and operational procedures for managing development projects and provide clear guidance on the policies, processes, and mechanisms applicable, in all areas of project cycle management. In addition, it is expected that the GDPM will set the concepts for efficient use of institutional capacity and resources by optimizing roles and responsibilities of the government bodies involved in project planning, preparation, approval, implementation, monitoring, and result assessments.
2. A sustainable training program for project management introduced to the Training Center of MOF (TC) - This output will help the government to establish a specialized training program for project management professionals and practitioners. The training program will be based on the government approved GDPM and international and national best practices. It will include training curricula and learning materials for different aspects of project management functions included in the GDPM. Needs assessment will be conducted to identify wider audiences that will benefit from the certified training courses. The TC will be supported for planning and conducting continuous and sustained training in 2015-2016.
3. National capacity for project management and monitoring improved - Based on outputs 1 and 2, the TC will launch a new training program which contains certification courses to improve the practical knowledge and skills in both public and private sectors for various aspects of development project management. In

addition to the government agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations directly involved or interested in project management, other institutions and authorities with policy making, supervisory and audit responsibilities will be able to strengthen their knowledge and understanding relevant to their mandates associated with the development project approval and monitoring processes.

4. Knowledge products for developing local supply market capacity - The TA will fund 1-2 knowledge products to support the government in assessing the national construction industry and the local contractors, suppliers and consultants (engineering design and project supervision service providers) capacity and identifying a medium and long-term road map for construction sector development. The knowledge product studies will be based on local market surveys, relevant literature review of the national legislation and data analysis of the investment projects for the past 5-10 years. The results will be discussed at the consultation workshops among the government and other stakeholder groups interested in those studies.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The Kyrgyz Republic's National Sustainable Development Strategy for 2013 -2017 stated that increasing efficiency and ensuring good governance in the public sector is a foundation for the successful development of the country. Furthermore, among other development priorities, it emphasizes the public investment program focus on supporting and improving strategically important infrastructure and optimization of procedures to improve project implementation and monitoring of results. The increasing demand by the government and development partners for fast and quality results from development projects requires a sound and sustainable operational system that reinforces good governance in project management. Foreign assistance projects support the government in addressing its financial and human capacity constraints in meeting its development objectives, but continue to face weak operational and management capacity in the central and sector agencies. Outdated construction industry standards, inadequate regulatory framework and the limited number of qualified suppliers, contractors and consultants in the local market, are other constraints which increases implementation risks for investment projects. This often causes procurement delays and rebidding. Also, a small pool of qualified experts in the market, including project managers, procurement and financial management specialists, monitoring and evaluation experts etc. is a major factor contributing to weak or underperforming PIUs and consequently delays in project start-up and implementation. Drawing on the lessons of previous capacity development activities and current constraints, further capacity development support is required to explore a more systematic and sustainable approach and consider: (i) the long-term solution for addressing the systemic issues; (ii) the structure and the limited and high turnover of staff; (iii) the institutionalization of training in project management; and (iv) sustainability of the guidelines, mechanisms and training facilities and services developed. There is a need for an analytical study or mapping of the national construction industry that will facilitate the government efforts to address the sector issues through effective reforms.

Impact: Improved governance and implementation effectiveness of development projects in key sectors

Outcome: Strengthened government capacity for managing development projects

Outputs:

- Policy guidelines and procedures for managing development projects improved
- A sustainable training program for project management introduced to the Training Center of MOF
- Knowledge products for developing the local supply market capacity
- National capacity for project management and monitoring improved

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48038-001

LAOS

A. Strengthening Access to Finance for Micro, Small, and Medium-Sized Enterprises

TA No. : 8848
Project No. : 48161-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Finance
Subsector : Finance sector development

Responsible ADB Officer: Kelly L. Hattel, Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 17 December 2014.

Description: The technical assistance (TA) aims to strengthen access to finance in Lao PDR for MSMEs by addressing supply and demand side constraints as measured by the percentage increase in MSMEs in target sectors using bank or MFI loans as a source of external finance. The outcome of the TA will be strengthened capacity of MSMEs to access formal finance for working capital. This will be achieved through first, a needs assessment of barriers in identified subsectors (with selection of one subsector), capacity development of MSMEs through offering of business development services (management skills development, business plan development, and financial literacy) and awareness raising around existing financial service providers/funds present in the respective market. To increase capital availability, the TA will promote the newly launched collateral registry and provide technical assistance around development of new products and services utilizing the registry. In addition, the TA will conduct an impact assessment of and promote improved financial management of an existing SME Fund managed by the Department of Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion (DOSMEP). Finally, guidance will be provided to develop a pilot technology fund to provide technology upgrades to MSMEs in targeted sectors, while encouraging linkages to formal financial service providers.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: In line with the government of Lao PDR's strategy to develop and promote small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and undertake SME trade-related reforms to help achieve sustained and inclusive economic growth (a strategy embedded in the Seventh National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED7), 2011- 2015), ADB's current Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) in Lao PDR has recognized the importance of strengthening the private sector. The private sector assessment under the CPS identified access to financial services as one of the key constraints faced by SMEs in expanding their businesses. In line with the CPS objective of promoting stronger private sector enabling environment, the envisaged CDTA therefore aims to support ongoing activities in the MSME sector. This CDTA will address recommendations from the previous lending program project completion report (PSME PCR) to strengthen access to finance through demand and supply side interventions, will complement the current SME Subprogram 2 Project Loan and may contribute to a future SME development program in targeted areas or a broader access to finance initiative.

Impact: Higher income of MSMEs in the targeted subsector

Outcome: Increased quality lending to MSMEs in targeted subsector

Outputs:

1. Strengthened capacity of MSMEs to access finance
2. Capacity development of MSMEs to develop practices necessary to improve access formal financial services
3. Increased knowledge among financial service providers of best practices in MSME product design and delivery including focus on particular needs of women-owned enterprises
4. Conduct impact assessment and promote sound financial management for the SME Fund
5. Framework for pilot technology fund to help MSMEs in target sectors

B. Second Strengthening Higher Education Project

TA No. : 8837
Project No. : 48127-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.45
Sector : Education
Subsector : Tertiary

Responsible ADB Officer: Norman LaRocque, Southeast Asia Department, Human and Social Development Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 18 December 2014.

Project details yet to be determined.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48127-001

MONGOLIA

A. Sustainable Forest Management to Improve Livelihood of Local Communities

TA No. : 8874
Project No. : 48061-002
Amount (US \$ million) : 2
Sector : Agriculture, natural resources and rural development
Subsector : Forestry

Responsible ADB Officer: Markus Vorpahl, East Asia Department, Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 19 January 2015.

Description: The proposed TA is in line with ADB's Interim Country Partnership Strategy for Mongolia, 2014-2016 to support the government's overarching strategic goal of inclusive and environmentally sustainable growth, and in particular to help Mongolia adapt to the impacts of climate change by supporting the efficient use and sustainable management of natural resources. Additionally, it will contribute to ADB's Strategy 2020's drivers of change, private sector development, gender equity, and partnerships including cooperation with civil society. The proposed TA is included in the country operations business plan, 2014-2016. The expected impact of the TA will be sustainable livelihood and increased resilience of forest ecosystems. The outcome will be sustainable forest management practices developed and implemented in five northeastern soums. The TA will demonstrate implementation of sound approaches following internationally accepted standards in geographically and socially comparable environments. The TA will improve the capacity of forestry line agencies in protecting and developing the forest in the target area by managing together with local stakeholders to reduce hazards to forests. Through involvement in FUGs established prior to the TA, capacity building, and formal and informal employment opportunities, around 2,300 people, including as much as possible low-income households and women, will be directly involved in the TA. The TA will target its support to communities and around 100 existing FUGs in rural areas with high forest cover of boreal forests. Those communities are mostly consisting of herders with little access to non-herding income. The poverty in those areas is generally high for 2011, according to World Bank assessments, more than 46% of the rural population was considered poor following national standards.

Impact: Sustainable livelihood and increased resilience of forest ecosystems

Outcome: Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) practices developed and implemented in five northeastern rural soums selected in aimags (provinces) with high levels of coverage by boreal forests and having functioning FUGs

Outputs:

- Capacity of forest management line agencies in SFM strengthened
- Forest product value-chains and FUG capacity improved
- Technology for wood processing systems demonstrated

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48061-002

B. Strategic Planning for Peatlands

TA No. : **8802**
Project No. : **48062-002**
Amount (US \$ million) : **0.4**
Sector : **Agriculture, natural resources and rural development**
Subsector : **Forestry; Water-based natural resources management**

Responsible ADB Officer: Alvin Lopez, East Asia Department, Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The TA supports the Interim Country Partnership Strategy (ICPS) for Mongolia, 2014-2016 as part of the core sector on agriculture, natural resources, and rural development. The ICPS indicates that, in order to prevent natural resource degradation and environmental pollution, ADB will support sustainable management of natural resources (i.e. water, land, forests, and peatlands), water security and information management, and protected area management. The TA directly responds to the priorities identified in the National Action Program on Climate Change (NAPCC, ratified by parliament in 2010) in Mongolia. The TA responds to NAPCC Strategic Objective 1, on supporting the establishment of the institutional framework on climate change; Strategic Objective 2, on strengthening national adaptation capacity; Strategic Objective 4, on capacity building related to climate change monitoring; and Strategic Objective 5, on community participation and livelihood support in relation to climate change. Specific measures outlined in the NAPCC that this TA will support includes the need to: (i) develop action programs for climate change adaptation in vulnerable sectors (e.g. livestock, agriculture, and water resources); (ii) enhance management systems forest conservation and key ecological restoration programs in response to climate change; and (iii) reduce land degradation and desertification, and increase the carbon sequestration potential of pasture and soils. The proposed TA also supports Mongolia's commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. The TA has been included in ADB's Country Operations Business Plan for Mongolia, 2014-2016. The expected impact of the TA will be sustainable management of peatlands in Mongolia. It is expected that by 2020, MEGD will achieve its targets for sustainable management of peatlands and associated water resources as set out in the approved strategic plan, in accordance with the prescribed timelines. The outcome will be an increased capacity of MEGD, and a clear guiding framework will be in place to address the peatland restoration and management issues. The TA will contribute to improved environmental management and sustainable development in Mongolia by supporting GOM's efforts in developing a strategic plan for peatland restoration and management. Through capacity building and development of priorities for peatland management and restoration, the proposed TA will address climate change, ecosystem, and water management issues, and develop opportunities for improved livelihoods for communities dependent or associated with peatlands.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: In Mongolia, peatlands constitute the last wet habitats in a major part of the country. The peatlands maintain wet habitats and pastures, feed rivers,

prevent soil erosion, maintain levels of groundwater necessary for forest and crop growth and keep wells full of water. During dry periods, which may continue for years, the moisture preserved in peatlands is a source of life and a barrier to desertification (Minayeva et al., 2005). Preliminary research findings indicate that almost 27,000 square kilometers (or almost 2% of Mongolia) is covered by peat. They are mainly used for grazing and sometimes as arable land, and belong to the most productive pasture areas in the country. Private cattle husbandry and the consequent overgrazing in recent years are threatening peatlands. For example, overgrazing and human-induced fires, combined with recent climate change, have led to the loss of thousands of hectares of peatlands in the Orkhon and Ider valleys and the Darkhat Intermontane basin. The hydrological and climate mitigation functions of these critical peatlands in Mongolia are now being compromised for two reasons: (i) the expansion of pastures in peatland areas which has been a consequence of long term drought; and (ii) the development of extractive industries (gold, wolfram, and molybdenum). The knowledge on distribution, natural functions, threats and status of peatlands in Mongolia is insufficient and poor. This is why peatlands are not sufficiently addressed in national development plans. The consequence of peatland degradation in Mongolia is not only loss of biodiversity and carbon stores, but especially also the loss of important and sometimes the last source of water in the middle range mountains. These peatlands protect permafrost lenses which fulfill the role of glacial water reserves in high mountains. Highland peatlands themselves accumulate a lot of precipitation serving further as water storage basins. This hydrological role of peatlands has not been recognized and addressed in land use planning to date in Mongolia. The GOM now recognizes the urgent need to address this issue and capacity building for peatland management in a systematic way, and thus requested this TA. The second national communications of Mongolia (2010) notes that in 2006, Mongolia's total net (sources, sinks) greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions were reported as only 15.6 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. It clearly identified that the faster growth in emissions in the future will be from the energy sector, 12% per annum between 2006-2030, as opposed to only 0.2% for the agriculture sector for the same period. In 2008, estimated emissions up to 45 million tons per annum put Mongolia as the seventh largest global emitter of carbon dioxide from degrading peatlands. From these figures, it is clear that the enormous amount of emissions from the degrading peatlands in Mongolia has not yet been captured. There is also insufficient policy to prevent further deterioration and facilitate restoration. It is urgent that an up to date overview is made of the distribution and status of the peatlands in Mongolia in order to estimate GHG emissions better and formulate priority actions. From the global perspective, better insight in emissions from peatlands is also necessary because the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has started the discussion on the position of land use in the future post 2020 GHG accounting within the new global climate treaty. For that purpose, better data on the distribution and status of peatlands is necessary. Countries are also being urged to consider the inclusion of peatlands in their nationally appropriate mitigation action (NAMA). In 2003, Mongolia participated in the Dutch financed Global Peatland Initiative (GPI). In 2007, an additional expedition to cover eastern part of Mongolia (Onon river basin) took place and included field surveys and paleoecological studies. Preliminary work on the distribution of peatlands in Mongolia was conducted during these past scientific surveys. Apart from these surveys, almost no other work has been done on peatlands in Mongolia. This TA builds on both these past work in Mongolia and current global and national initiatives in peatland management, restoration and sustainable use.

Impact: Improved management of peatlands in Mongolia

Outcome: Increased capacity of key stakeholders and an improved planning and implementation framework for peatland restoration and management in Mongolia

Outputs:

- A review and assessment of the distribution and current status of peatlands in Mongolia
- Enhanced awareness and capacity of key stakeholders at the national and local level in relation to sustainable management of peatlands
- A draft action plan with priorities for sustainable peatland management in Mongolia prepared

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48062-002

C. Promoting Effectiveness of Development Cooperation

TA No. : 8863
Project No. : 48187-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.7
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Public administration

Responsible ADB Officer: Mark Bezemer, East Asia Department, Mongolia Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: This technical assistance (TA) will support the Government of Mongolia (GOM) in identifying pragmatic solutions to improve the effectiveness of managing development assistance resources, including relevant international best practices contained in the Paris Declaration (2005), the Busan Partnership Document (2011), and the recent Mexico High Level Meeting Communiqué (2014), and recommend priority actions. The TA will also support the capacity of the GOM to effectively manage development assistance resources through: (i) drafting a development assistance policy, (ii) better coordination with a broad range of development partners, (iii) human resource development. The TA is closely aligned with the Mongolia interim country partnership strategy (ICPS), 2014- 2016, which promotes good governance, and envisions a scale-up of ordinary capital resources to an annual amount of \$200 million from \$50 million, and is included in the Country Operations Business Plan (COBP), 2014-2016. The TA is closely coordinated with relevant interventions by other development partners, in particular the World Bank (monitoring and evaluation of ODA) and UNDP (capacity building in development policy and planning).

Impact: Alignment of development partners' assistance with GOM development priorities and objectives improved.

Outcome: Performance of GOM to effectively plan and manage development assistance-supported projects improved.

Outputs:

- Comprehensive aid management assessment against international best practices, including Mongolia's commitments under the Declarations, prepared along with pragmatic recommendations for improvement. Development assistance policy formulated. Effective government-development partner coordination mechanisms established.
- Skills of key government officials in development assistance management improved.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48187-001

D. Ensuring Inclusiveness and Service Delivery for Persons with Disabilities

TA No. : 8850
Project No. : 48076-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Education; Health and social protection; Public sector management
Subsector : Pre-primary and primary - social protection initiatives; Health sector development and reform; Social protection initiatives

Responsible ADB Officer: Claude Bodart, East Asia Department, Urban and Social Sectors Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The proposed project will support the Government of Mongolia in addressing a major social problem by ensuring inclusiveness and delivery of services for persons with disabilities (PWD) in Ulaanbaatar and at the aimag (province) level. The overall aim of the project is to ensure access of PWD to employment to increase their autonomy and contribution to the economy and the society in general. The project will support the government in complying with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Incheon Strategy for Persons with Disabilities.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The project preparatory technical assistance (TA) is needed to (i) reach a consensus among stakeholders on a project that will seek to change the concept of disability in Mongolia from a medical to a social approach, (ii) tackle sensitive issues such as reforming social welfare benefits for persons with disabilities (PWD), (iii) collect data on PWD that are not readily available and are needed to plan the project and determine a reliable baseline, (iv) bring in international best practices to improve project design, and (v) carry out assessments and analyses to prepare the report and recommendation of the President.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48076-001

E. Coal to Cleaner Fuel Conversion for Heating in Ger District and Power Generation

TA No. : 8776
Project No. : 48029-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.35
Sector : Energy
Subsector : Conventional energy generation

Responsible ADB Officer: Lin Lu, East Asia Department, Energy Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 4 December 2014.

Description: The Interim Country Partnership Strategy 2014-2016 underscores the need to: (i) address energy security and climate change adaptation challenges, (ii) improve livelihood through emission reduction, and (iii) promote clean energy. The proposed TA will promote the utilization of cleaner fuel using abundant domestic coal resources, therefore, the air pollution and over-dependency on imports of petroleum products will be drastically improved for Mongolia. More job opportunities will be provided during CTL plants construction and operation.

Impact: Improved air quality and energy security in Mongolia due to cleaner fuel supply from CTL

Outcome: Enabling environment for CTL established by 2016

Outputs:

- Techno-economic feasibility of CTL established
- Policy/regulatory environment assessed.
- CTL implementation plan developed
- Workshop organized to disseminate TA findings and recommendations.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48029-001

F. Supporting the Credit Guarantee System for Economic Diversification and Employment Project

TA No. : 8792
Project No. : 48015-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.5
Sector : Finance
Subsector : Small and medium enterprise finance and leasing

Responsible ADB Officer: Giacomo Giannetto, East Asia Department, Public Mgt, Financial Sector and Regional Coop Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 4 December 2014.

Project details yet to be determined.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48015-001

MYANMAR

A. Environmental Safeguard Institutional Strengthening

TA No. : 8786
Project No. : 48145-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Agriculture, natural resources and rural development; Energy Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services
Subsector : Irrigation; Rural water supply services; Water-based natural resources management; Electricity transmission and distribution; Large hydropower generation; Road transport (non-urban); Urban sanitation; Urban water supply

Responsible ADB Officer: Pavit Ramachandran, Southeast Asia Department, Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 December 2014

Description: The capacity development technical assistance (CDTA) is intended to address the identified functional and technical capacity gaps faced by ECD, enabling the department to better fulfill its environmental quality management mandate. Specifically, the CDTA will: (i) provide comprehensive support for application by ECD of newly developed EIA Procedure, including introduction of administrative and technical review systems and related capacity development; (ii) deliver training to MOECAAF and other sector ministries intended to raise awareness and develop capacity in strategic environmental assessment (SEA), and promote future adoption and application; (iii) develop capacity in support of project level environmental regulation, including permitting, inspection, monitoring, reporting, and compliance; and (iv) support data and information collection and dissemination, and utilization in national environmental reporting, and ADB country reporting including preparation of a first Myanmar Country Environmental Analysis (CEA) as an input to the full Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) 2017 2021. In line with the Midterm Review of Strategy 2020, this TA will support the strengthening of governance and institutional mechanisms and provide an opportunity to mainstream international best practices on safeguards. The CDTA will build on work already completed under TA 7566-REG and ongoing under TA 7987-REG complement newly commenced TA 7566 support for institutional strengthening and capacity

development on environmental and social safeguards for the Ministry of Construction, benefit from TA 8398-MYA e-Governance support for strengthening of government departments portals and web information management, and coordinate with safeguard activities being undertaken by other development partners such as World Bank and JICA, towards standardization of environmental safeguards and their application. The CDTA administration and implementation will benefit from formation under CEP of a National Support Unit to support MOECAAF in program implementation, including environmental safeguards and information management, and ongoing ADB grant and loan projects. Environmental screening, assessment, compliance monitoring and reporting capacity development under the CDTA will also support ADB's operational pipeline for 2014-2016, specifically to reduce project preparation times and increase implementation efficiency through ensuring consistency with screening checklists, adherence with applicable assessment requirements, and conduct of appropriate compliance monitoring and review.

Impact: Sustained environmental quality across the investment project pipeline in key sectors

Outcome: ECD national and state branches exhibit improved processes and procedures for environmental assessments and review

Outputs:

1. Enhanced EIA framework and capacity development plan prepared
2. Comprehensive environmental quality management training program delivered
3. Improved environmental monitoring, information sharing and reporting

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48145-001

B. Transport Sector Reform and Modernization

TA No. : 8788
Project No. : 47087-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Transport policies and institutional development

Responsible ADB Officer: Adrien Veron-Okamoto, Southeast Asia Department, Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 December 2014.

Impact: Transport sector reform and modernization initiated

Outcome: Government is able to consider and start implementing transport sector reforms and capacity building plans

Outputs:

- Improved transport sector architecture defined
- Restructuring and capacity building plan for Myanmar Railways prepared
- Restructuring and capacity building plan for Public Works prepared
- Government receives advice on how to restructure selected state-owned enterprises

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=47087-001

NEPAL

Enhancing Portfolio Performance

TA No. : 8847
Project No. : 48339-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Agriculture, natural resources and rural development
Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services
Subsector : Rural water policy, institutional and capacity development;
Transport policies and institutional development; Urban policy,
institutional and capacity development

Responsible ADB Officer: Tika Ram Limbu, South Asia Department, Nepal Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The proposed TA envisages institutional strengthening for enhancing portfolio performance focusing on the capacity building so that implementation of ADB funded projects will be improved. The contract award and disbursement will be enhanced leading to improved capital expenditure and accelerated growth. Given its size, the proposed TA will be able to support the much needed wider and more generic reforms and capacity building focusing on: (i) strengthening the systems and capacities in public procurement, project and contract management; (ii) develop sector-wide roadmaps and actions to enhance the sector investments progressively through policies on investment and capacity building, project feasibility studies and detailed designs, accelerated implementation, and associated institutional restructuring of the sector; (iii) improving budgetary and monitoring processes including the steps and arrangements for budget approval, endorsement, expenditure authorization and implementation, and (iv) other portfolio management activities.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48339-001

PAKISTAN

A. Strengthening the Central Power Purchasing Agency

TA No. : 8772
Project No. : 48066-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Energy
Subsector : Energy sector development and institutional reform

Responsible ADB Officer: Megan Wolf, Central and West Asia Department, Energy Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 3 December 2014.

Description: The objective of the TA project is to support and enable the establishment and initial operationalization of an autonomous CPPA in Pakistan. This will be achieved by embedding the required international and national consultants in the CPPA to provide management support, capacity building, access to expert resources and training for CPPA's management team and employees.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: This TA project supports the new government's priorities of reforming the energy sector, as well as restoring sustainability in the power sector. Reforming the energy sector is a key objective of Pakistan's Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) 2009 to 2013 and is aligned with Strategy 2020 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). This TA project is

included in Pakistan's Country Operations Business Plan 2014 to 2016. The power sector unbundling in late 1990s led to the formation of the National Transmission and Despatch Company (NTDC), licensed to undertake power transmission, system operation dispatch functions, and act as a single purchaser and a seller of power. A dedicated unit within NTDC currently completes all electricity market settlement and payment functions. This Technical Assistance (TA) project will assist the establishment and initial operationalization of the Central Power Purchasing Authority (CPPA) as an autonomous settlements company in Pakistan's power sector, with well-defined governance and financial structures.

Impact: Improved financial management and governance in Pakistan's power sector.

Outcome: CPPA operates an autonomous and transparent electricity settlement system in Pakistan.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48066-001

B. Balochistan Water Resources Development Project

TA No. : **8800**
Project No. : **48098-001**
Amount (US \$ million) : **1.1**
Sector : **Agriculture, natural resources and rural development**
Subsector : **Irrigation**

Responsible ADB Officer: Akhtar Ali, Central and West Asia Department, Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The proposed Balochistan Water Resources Development Project is located across six districts in Balochistan in the Zhob, Kacchi plain, Dasht and Hingol river basins. The project will improve land and water resources, agricultural production and farm income of 10,000 rural households by: (i) bringing 10,000 ha of new land under cultivation; (ii) improving 20,000 ha of irrigated land; and (iii) protecting 1,500 ha of watersheds. The project will: (a) construct new small dams and flood irrigation (spate) systems; (b) improve 300 km of canals, drains, and karezes (subsurface water channels); (c) develop a satellite-based water information system; and (d) build capacity of the local communities, the Irrigation and Power Department (IPD), and the Agriculture and Cooperative Department (ACD). The project impact will be the increased farm income in the project area. The project outcome will be the increased agricultural production. The project outputs will be: (i) improved land and water resource management; (ii) participating communities have better access to water for domestic uses; and (iii) improved capacity of the communities, IPD, and ACD in water management. The main project components include works (\$92 million), capacity building (\$12 million), and project management (\$11 million).

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48098-001

C. Public Sector Enterprises Reform Program

TA No. : 3214
Project No. : 48031-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 20
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Reforms of state owned enterprises

Responsible ADB Officer: Joao Pedro Farinha Fernandes, Central and West Asia Department
Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 4 December 2014.

Description: The Project will strengthen the Government of Pakistan's capacity to privatize and restructure its designated public sector enterprises (PSEs) by: (i) strengthening the privatization program; (ii) improving corporate governance, structure, and management capacity in selected PSEs; and (iii) enhancing governance and regulatory regimes in selected sectors currently dominated by PSEs. The expected impact of the project is a reduction of the fiscal and economic costs associated with Pakistan PSEs. The expected outcome is successful privatization and restructuring of selected PSEs. This will be measured through the number of government divestments from fiscally costly PSEs and the number of fiscally costly PSEs effectively restructured.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The government has requested the Asian Development Bank and other development partners to support the strategic policy and financial requirements of the PSE reform and privatization agenda. The Project will finance technical assistance to PSE reforms. This assistance is aligned with the draft country partnership strategy for Pakistan being designed, and is included in the country operations business plan 2014-2016.

Impact: Reduced fiscal and economic costs associated with Pakistan's PSEs

Outcome: Successful privatization and restructuring of selected PSEs

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48031-001

D. Peshawar Sustainable Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project

TA No. : 8795
Project No. : 48289-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services
Subsector : Transport policies and institutional development; Urban public transport; Urban roads and traffic management; Urban flood protection

Responsible ADB Officer: David Margonsztern, Central and West Asia Department
Urban Development and Water Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The project impact will be sustainable, low carbon, and climate resilient urban transport system in Peshawar. The project outcome will be improved quality of public transport along corridor 2 in Peshawar. The project will consist of the following two interlinked outputs: Output 1 (infrastructure):

Peshawar's first bus rapid transit (BRT) corridor is constructed. This will include construction of (i) a BRT route designed and built following international best practices and quality standards along corridor 2; (ii) sidewalks, on-street parking, mixed-traffic lanes, and non-motorized transport lane along the BRT; (iii) a high-capacity drainage system along the corridor; (iv) BRT depot; (v) improvement of access roads for NMT and feeder services; and (vi) energy-efficient streetlights and intelligent transport systems for traffic management. Output 2: Project management is effective, leading to sustainable BRT operations. This will include: (i) developing capacity of Peshawar BRT Company (PBRTC) and Peshawar Urban Mobility Authority (PUMA); (ii) designing the BRT operational plan and business model; (iii) facilitating a bus industry transition through negotiations with private bus operators selected to operate the BRT; (iv) setting up a fleet scrapping program and compensation mechanism for non-participating operators; (v) structuring and delivering viable public-private partnership arrangements through transaction advisory service; (vi) developing capacity of the traffic police to enforce parking, hawkers policy and other traffic rules; and (vii) implementing a transit-oriented urban development strategy.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48289-001

E. Prioritizing Interventions for Financial Sector Development in Pakistan

TA No. : 8832
Project No. : 48327-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.23
Sector : Finance
Subsector : Finance sector development

Responsible ADB Officer: Shauzab Ali, Central and West Asia Department, Pakistan Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Impact and Outcome: The expected impact is improved capital allocation and financial intermediation in Pakistan. The expected outcome will be the identification and prioritization of key steps to expand and deepen private sector financing in Pakistan.

Methodology and Key Activities/ Outputs: The proposed S-PATA will have the following outputs.

1) Identification of key financial sector constraints. This output will be delivered by completing a review of the current constraints facing the financial sector and its ability to allocate capital and provide financial intermediation. Particular attention will be paid to: (i) the growing level of public debt, (ii) development of conventional bond and Sukuk markets to supply long-term capital for infrastructure investments, (iii) access to finance by agriculture and SME sectors, and (iv) insurance as a mechanism to share risk and be a source of savings and investment capital.

2) Action plan and prioritization of outputs and activities that address sector constraints. This output will be delivered by: (i) mapping and prioritizing the proposed outputs and activities of the Project so that they address those constraints in a holistic manner, meet the current needs of the government and are achievable; (ii) Coordinate with other donors to agree on resource allocation plan for the project which is acceptable to the government and (iii) convening a consultative group consisting of experienced policy makers, economists commercial banking experts commercial banking experts and other key stakeholders who will provide feedback, review, and validation of the proposed action plan including suggestions for implementation.

3) Initial identification of funding. This output will be delivered by conducting a development partner workshop and preparing a workshop report that identifies sources of proposed co-financing on a grant, loan, or cost sharing basis; and mapping against each of the priorities from the action plan produced as output 2. This mapping of support will include the proposed Project.

4) Implementation Plan for ADB assistance. This output will be delivered by: (i) completing an implementation plan for the delivery of Project outputs, and (ii) preparing the terms of reference for a larger technical team of international and national financial sector specialists and experts, under the far more detailed and longer-term technical assistance to be provided by the proposed Project.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48327-001

REGIONAL

A. Strengthening Disaster Resilience in Selected Urban Areas of Southeast Asia

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| TA No. | : | 8868 |
| Project No. | : | 48426-001 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 0.23 |
| Sector | : | Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services |
| Subsector | : | Urban policy, institutional and capacity development |

Responsible ADB Officer: Arghya Sinha Roy, Regional and Sustainable Development Department
Climate Change Coordination & Disaster Risk Management Unit

Status: ADB Board approved on 24 December 2014.

Description: The proposed regional small-scale research and development technical assistance (RS-RDTA) will develop a scoping paper identifying regional and national actions for enhancing the enabling environment for strengthening disaster resilience in urban areas of selected Southeast Asia developing member countries (DMCs) - Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). In April 2014, ADB approved an Operational Plan (Operational Plan) for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRM), 2014-2020, which is based on a vision of disaster resilience, and highlights three key requirements to achieve this vision: (i) the integration of disaster risk reduction into development; (ii) actions to address the intersection between disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA); and (iii) initiatives to ensure that there are adequate financing arrangements in place to reduce risk and to manage and transfer residual risk. The Operational Plan lays out a series of common, cross-cutting actions to address these requirements, focusing on the institutionalization of IDRM, strengthening capacity and knowledge, investments in disaster resilience, and stakeholder engagement. The Operational Plan identifies the crossover of DRM with other development challenges, such as unplanned urbanization, and states that ADB will continue to support actions to strengthen disaster risk as part of its wider efforts to strengthen urban resilience, in keeping with the Urban Operational Plan 2012-2020 and in recognition of the fact that a considerable share of urban expansion is occurring in hazard-prone areas. In 2013, ADB established the Integrated Disaster Risk Management Fund (Fund) with funding support from the Government of Canada. The Fund is intended as a resource to assist the development of innovative regional solutions for DRM in Southeast Asian DMCs. The priorities of the Fund include, among others, supporting: (i) regional approaches that would encourage increased investments for reducing urban disaster risk, and (ii) interventions that link to ongoing regional initiatives on DRM. In order to ensure coherence and maximize synergies between interventions supported by the Fund and other similar interventions being implemented in the region, ADB has been undertaking dialogues with other development partners supporting urban DRM-related interventions in Southeast Asia. For example, ADB has had discussions with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat on exploring synergies between urban resilience related priorities of the Work Program of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) (see footnote 5) and urban resilience projects that could be funded through the Fund. The proposed RS-RDTA, to be co-financed by the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the IDRM Fund will support the development of the above mentioned scoping paper. The scoping paper will be developed in consultation with participating Southeast Asian DMCs, regional and development partners involved in urban disaster resilience related projects. The recommendations of the scoping paper will: (i) guide ADB in developing a follow-up regional TA on urban resilience to be funded by the Fund; (ii) support the ASEAN Secretariat in detailing specific aspects of its urban resilience related priority; and (iii) provide inputs to future urban DRM-related interventions within the Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM) of the German Government coordinated by GIZ.

Impact: Strengthened urban resilience in selected Southeast Asia developing member countries (DMCs) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Outcome: Regional and national actions identified to enhance the enabling environment for strengthening urban resilience in selected Southeast Asian DMCs.

Outputs: Scoping Paper identifying regional and national actions for enhancing the enabling environment needed in urban areas to strengthen disaster resilience.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48426-001

B. Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia

TA No. : 8836
Project No. : 48290-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.75
Sector : **Agriculture, natural resources and rural development; Energy; Finance; Health and social protection; Industry and trade; Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services;**
Subsector : **Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development; Electricity transmission and distribution; Infrastructure finance and investment funds; Disease control of non-communicable diseases and other priority programs; Trade and services; Multimodal logistics; Urban policy, institutional and capacity development**

Responsible ADB Officer: Jin W. Cyhn Southeast Asia Department
Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 18 December 2014.

Description: Despite ASEAN's progress and prospects, achieving the ASEAN Economic Community's (AEC) targets and milestones by the end of 2015 remains a significant challenge. In fact, a study on the AEC targets released in 2012 by the ASEAN Secretariat indicates that removing physical and soft connectivity constraints remain the most significant challenge. Even after the AEC comes into being, considerable efforts will be needed to further strengthen connectivity in terms of both hardware and software within the region and with the rest of the world. As these challenges persist, there is still a tremendous need to build capacities within ASEAN to enhance connectivity physical, institutional, and people-to-people as defined in the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been working to promote connectivity in Southeast Asia through three subregional cooperation programs: (i) the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA); (ii) the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT); and (iii) the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Economic Cooperation Program. While these subregional cooperation programs have achieved considerable success in promoting physical connectivity, continued efforts are needed to foster greater institutional and people-to-people connectivity.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: ADB has supported capacity building for subregional cooperation and connectivity since 2002 through the Phnom Penh Plan for Development Management Program (PPPlan). While the PPPlan has achieved considerable results, an evaluation study conducted by IED in 2008, recommended key design changes for any proposed successor programs, namely: (i) expanding the program to non-GMS countries, but retaining specific focus on Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam (the CLMV countries); (ii) enhancing the program's operational focus, relevancy and linkages; and (iii) developing partnerships with research and training institutions to promote greater outreach and more sustainable knowledge sharing.

Along with these design enhancements, the number of training sessions will be reduced, in consideration of administrative and budgetary constraints. Drawing from the experience gained and knowledge shared through the PPPlan, this proposed regional technical assistance will be closely aligned with and support the overall framework of the MPAC on regional connectivity and other relevant initiatives (especially from the subregional programs) to build the AEC. Accordingly, the TA will consist of series of training programs for government officials to enhance their capacities in advancing physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity within the region.

Impact:

- Accelerated implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN
- Connectivity (MPAC) for enhanced connectivity in the region

Outcome: Greater capacity of government officials in the region to develop and implement policies for enhanced connectivity

Outputs:

- A comprehensive training program delivered
- An information repository established

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48290-001

C. Establishing an Online Platform for Information Sharing to Enhance SME Exports

TA No. : 8871
Project No. : 48342-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.23
Sector : Industry and trade
Subsector : Industry and trade

Responsible ADB Officer: Alisa Di Caprio, Office of Regional Economic Integration

Status: ADB Board approved on 17 December 2014.

Description: This small-scale technical assistance (SSTA) will be used to pilot a web-based information platform. This pilot will enable us to assess its potential throughout the region as a whole. Specifically, the SSTA will resource the building of a basic website which is populated by data for the pilot country. It will also support the consultations needed to execute the pilot in a DMC. The objective is to produce a functioning pilot website in May 2015. Demand as assessed in consultations with Regional Departments is high among all sub-regions.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Technology is reshaping expectations about SMEs growth potential. New developments in information and communication technologies can facilitate SMEs efforts to become relevant players in the international marketplace. Powered by greater marketing and business tools, Asia and the Pacific region has a number of SMEs, which were born local and have transformed themselves into genuine global success stories. Yet even as these developments have progressed, SME engagement in trade remains low. This limited trade activity is a missed opportunity for both productivity growth and employment. By linking SMEs into the formal international trading system, every country in Asia and the Pacific can gain as firms expand beyond the limitations of their domestic markets. SMEs that export have been shown to be larger, more productive, more innovative and expand faster than those which do not. The importance of access to and use of information and communications technology is paramount in enabling the participation of SMEs in trade. There is untapped potential in Asia where internet usage has grown consistently year-on-year. Increasingly, ADB has sought to engage technology to support our efforts to address the barriers to SMEs engagement in trade. Including a website as part of the information dissemination component of the Pacific Private Sector Development Initiative (PPSDI) is one example. The PSDI is a regional

technical assistance facility that promotes business reform and competition. It started in 2006 and today assists 14 Pacific countries including Timor-Leste. That model is now being replicated in the Mekong region, through the Mekong Business Initiative. Our project seeks to take the next logical step and provide a region-wide instrument that is accessible to SMEs and which can directly provide solutions to some of the known challenges they face in becoming exporters. This project aims to loosen a number of the constraints SMEs face in their efforts to expand, grow and become active players in international trade.

Impact: Improved capacity of SMEs to access international markets

Outcome: SMEs in the pilot country gain better understanding of trade process

Outputs

1. Website development
2. A roll out plan for other countries

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48342-001

D. Understanding and Arresting Corruption in ADB-Related Activity

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| TA No. | : | 8873 |
| Project No. | : | 48492-001 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 0.23 |
| Sector | : | Multisector |
| Subsector | : | ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development |

Responsible ADB Officer: Alisa Di Caprio, Office of Regional Economic Integration

Status: ADB Board approved on 17 December 2014.

Description: The desired impact of this TA is to enhance development effectiveness in ADB projects through the elevation of antifraud and anticorruption measures and to develop the capacity of EAs, IAs, and ADB regional departments (RDs) to mitigate fraud and corruption risks in ADB projects, and realizing the core objectives of GACAP II and Strategy 2020. The expected outcomes of the TA are: (a) for developing member countries (DMCs) and ADB to jointly identify, mitigate and monitor fraud and corruption risks at key milestones of a project cycle design, implementation, mid-review, and completion; and (b) for EAs, IAs and RDs to possess the capacity and skills to mitigate fraud and corruption risks in all ADB projects.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: To strengthen fraud and corruption risk identification and preventative/mitigation measures in ADB projects, ADB requires an instrument, such as a heat map, to enable staff to systematically identify and prioritize fraud and corruption risks in ADB projects (Heat Map); and a project level fraud and corruption risk monitoring and mitigating tool (Tool) that can be applied countrywide, sector wide and project wide, and which may be tailored for the use of executing agencies (EAs), implementing agencies (IAs), and relevant ADB project staff (collectively, the Heat Map and Tool are referred to as Tools).

Impact: Enhanced development effectiveness in ADB projects through elevation of antifraud and anticorruption as key priorities by DMC governments.

Outcome: Capacity development of EAs, IAs and RDs to mitigate fraud and corruption risks in ADB projects.

Outputs:

1. A heat map identifying and prioritizing fraud and corruption risks in selected ADB Projects (Heat Map) including a defined criteria/formula for evaluation of risks.
2. The Tool
3. Publication and training materials developed and disseminated, including comprehensive operating manuals to facilitate training for EAs, IAs and RDs (Publications)

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48492-001

E. Technology Transfer for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure Project Development

TA No. : 8859
Project No. : 48481-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.23
Sector : Energy; Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services
Subsector : Energy sector development and institutional reform; Transport policies and institutional development; Urban policy, institutional and capacity development

Responsible ADB Officer: Anthony J. Jude, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Knowledge Sharing and Services Center

Status: ADB Board approved on 16 December 2014.

Impact: Sustainable economic development with disaster resilient infrastructure in DMCs

Outcome: Ongoing growth in ADB disaster resilient project development through innovative technology transfer with the public and private partners

Outputs:

- i) Long list of new and innovative cost effective technologies applicable to ADB disaster resilient projects.
- ii) Knowledge matching exercise conducted in the second quarter of 2015 at HQ ADB and one preparatory and two follow up workshops in the regions.
- iii) Suitable online solutions in place, such as a knowledge hub on the ADB Knowledge Portal and collaboration facility, such as Linked-In community.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48481-001

F. Mapping Resilience to Fragility and Conflict in Asia and the Pacific

TA No. : 8821
Project No. : 48397-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.9
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Public administration

Responsible ADB Officer: Patrick Safran, Pacific Department, Urban, Social Development & Public Management Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The goal of this TA is to help build resilience through supporting fragility and conflict-sensitive approaches to development in selected fragile states in Asia and the Pacific. Building on previous assistance supporting ADB's engagement in FCAS, specific assessment tools have been piloted

(e.g., peacebuilding tool, guide to fragility assessment, fragility index, institutional strengthening framework, customized risk management framework). This TA will support and expand their application in FCAS DMCs and will provide the means to capture collective local knowledge (resilience mapping) to better understand the operating context and the interaction between intervention and context. This will enable more effective policies and programs designed specifically to address the complex development issues in FCAS. A key lesson from earlier TAs is that further strengthening of ADB and counterpart agencies capacities for engagement in FCAS, as well as stakeholders participation, to avoid negative effects and maximize positive impacts for peacebuilding/state building and development, is needed to improve development effectiveness in such fragile settings. The resilience mapping one of the recommendations of the Manila forum will: (i) capture the drivers of fragility and conflict in FCAS country, (ii) identify ways to cultivate the country's strategies, programs and projects, to nurture peacebuilding and state building efforts to build resilience, and (iii) integrate all existing assessments that can be used by FCAS governments and development partners in country programming and project financing into a customized (country-specific) framework for peacebuilding and state building. The mapping exercise will be based on the judicious use of all fragility and conflict assessment tools and processes, some of which have been developed and piloted under earlier ADB TA. This will include, but is not limited to, assessments of capacity, institutions, gender, civil society, economic policy, state performance and governance, natural hazards, and political economy. The mapping of resilience to fragility and conflict will be piloted in one selected FCAS country prior to replication in other fragile situations to design a customized framework. A training program on fragility and conflict-sensitive approach to development will also be conducted for concerned staff and partner government agencies to better understand how to integrate fragile/conflict-sensitivity within complex institutional cultures, structures and systems, and how to operationalize it in difficult and volatile political contexts. A communication strategy, in turn, will be prepared and implemented to promote and advocate the wider use of the resilience mapping exercise to implement fragility and conflict-sensitivity approaches to development among key international and local players in FCAS as basis for the formulation of national development plans, country programming, and project formulation.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:

- Need to translate international commitments into actions for fragile states. Since 2005, many high-level meetings have been held and declarations of intent have been issued on aid effectiveness in fragile and conflict-affected situations (FCAS), but those commitments need to be translated into more effective action on the ground. In June 2013, ADB and the Australian Agency for International Development (now Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) held a high-level forum on Building Resilience to Fragility in Asia and the Pacific in Manila to translate international intent into country-led actions supporting more resilient and more inclusive societies to emerge. The Manila forum was designed to exchange ideas on new ways of engagement and what constitutes working differently and working better in FCAS to help build resilience to fragility and conflict. The Manila forum made five recommendations: (i) increase the participation of all FCAS stakeholders, (ii) give greater voice to FCAS countries, (iii) improve FCAS funding, (iv) map fragility to better understand and work more efficiently in the local context (resilience mapping), and (v) measure fragility. This TA will focus on resilience mapping through participatory approaches in selected FCAS countries.
- Lack of understanding of the local context in which development partners operate. Without proper understanding and appreciation of the local conditions for which development partners operate, the policies, principles, and approaches that development agencies normally apply can be ineffective. Engagement without understanding the local context may even result in risks adding to the difficulties states already face in establishing effective and legitimate institutions, policies and the leadership needed to transit to stability and sustained development over the long term. As Kaplan states, International action should focus on facilitating local processes, leveraging local capacities and complementing local actions, so that local citizens can create governance systems appropriate to their surroundings. Kaplan further notes that foreign blueprints for establishing state institutions may not be suitable to local conditions. Mapping fragility to better understand local context and identify drivers of fragility and conflict will enable strategies, programs, and projects to maximize positive benefits, mitigate risks, and avoid negative impacts of ADBs interventions in FCAS countries. The mapping may also help identify peacebuilding indicators to measure fragility, in quantitative or qualitative terms.

- Strengthening ADB's limited technical capacity to operate in fragile and conflict-affected situations. The midterm review of ADB's Strategy 2020 highlights support to FCAS and notes the importance of understanding the local context, making long-term commitments, and ensuring country ownership, in addition to being flexible in responding effectively to the unique challenges in FCAS countries. ADB needs to commit and invest in additional capacity if it is to successfully mainstream FCAS-sensitive approaches. Trainings on fragility will therefore continue to be mainstreamed into ADB's staff development programs. This TA will supplement the full-time staff member, who is the institution-wide focal point. The dedicated team of FCAS experts engaged under this TA (FCAS resource group) will support country and project teams in ADB's geographically diverse FCAS countries and in subnational situations of fragility and conflict. The Operational Plan for Enhancing ADB's Effectiveness in FCAS commits ADB to 13 activities over the 2013 to 2020 period. One of these activities is the establishment of a resource group, composed of consultants with FCAS experience. The proposed TA responds to ADB's Strategy 2020 recommendation to seek innovative means to strengthen the effectiveness of country-led models of engagement in FCAS. It supports the implementation of ADB's approach to engaging with FCAS and the Pacific Approach 2010-2014. It will also assist implementation of the 2010 recommendations of the Special Evaluation Study on FCAS and ADB's Operational Plan in FCAS.

Impact: Greater resilience to fragility and conflict in FCAS in Asia and the Pacific

Outcome: Resilience mapping informs strategies, programs and projects in selected FCAS countries

Outputs:

1. Fragility and conflict-sensitive assessments conducted in selected FCAS countries using existing tools and frameworks
2. Capacity building and institutional strengthening on fragility and conflict-sensitive approaches to development conducted for concerned staff and partner government agencies in selected FCAS countries
3. National communications strategies implemented to promote and advocate the use of the resilience mapping exercise and the fragility and conflict-sensitive approach among key international and local players in selected FCAS countries.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48397-001

G. Five Decades of Asian Development

TA No. : **8815**
Project No. : **48375-001**
Amount (US \$ million) : **0.75**
Sector : **Multisector**
Subsector : **ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development**

Responsible ADB Officer: Jesus Felipe, Office of the Chief Economist

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description:

- (i) A high-level conference on Asia's development to be participated in by reputed scholars, policy makers and development practitioners to discuss Asia's development record during the last 50 years and the challenges ahead, to be held in Manila in mid-2015;
- (ii) An edited volume containing original and first-rate chapters on Asia's development, to be published by a top publisher, e.g. Cambridge University Press (CUP) or Oxford University Press (OUP), published by April 2017 and to be launched at the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The purpose of this project is to assess Asia development over the last five decades and draw lessons for the future. A cursory analysis of the

region leads to the conclusion that a main characteristic is its tremendous heterogeneity. While Japan and the four NIES are high-income economies the Asian Miracle, the rest of the region is still in the middle and low-income ranges. Moreover, agriculture is still a very large employer across the South Asian subcontinent, and even in the PRC, the Philippines, Indonesia or Thailand, it employs about a third of all workers. Finally, many countries are experiencing a transition from agriculture into low-productivity services (largely skipping the industrialization phase). Industrialization of the type experienced by South Korea in the 1970s will probably not happen again. In other words, the performance of most of Asia cannot, in any sense, be referred to as miraculous. This includes large economies like India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines, and Viet Nam; the smaller economies of Southeast Asia, Myanmar, Lao PDR, and Cambodia; the ex-Soviet Republics of Central Asia; and the Pacific Islands.

Impact: Improved policy formulation in ADB DMCs

Outcome: DMCs' improved understanding of Asia's development during the last five decades and its challenges ahead.

Outputs:

1. A high-level conference to discuss Asia's development record during the last 50 years and the region's challenges ahead, to be held in Manila.
2. An edited volume containing original and first-rate chapters on Asia's development, to be co-published with a top-publisher.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48375-001

H. Enhancing Road Safety for Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Member Countries

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| TA No. | : | 8804 |
| Project No. | : | 48033-001 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 1.5 |
| Sector | : | Transport |
| Subsector | : | Road transport (non-urban) |

Responsible ADB Officer: Fergal Trace, Central and West Asia Department, Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The CAREC TTFS, endorsed at the 12th Ministerial Conference on Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation held in Astana, Kazakhstan on 23-24 October 2013, identified the need for TA on road safety for CAREC member countries. The proposed TA fulfills ADB's commitment to delivery of TA on road safety intended to reduce the burden associated with road collisions in CAREC member countries. The proposed TA will seek to attempt to reduce loss of life and resulting poverty impacts associated with road traffic collisions through developing capacity in CAREC member countries in key areas relating to road safety: road safety management; data collection and analysis; road safety engineering; enforcement of traffic laws; and road safety advocacy and education. The expected TA outputs are: (i) an established a CAREC road safety strategy, (ii) strengthened capacity of CAREC member countries to manage and coordinate road safety activities including improved data collection and road collision research, improved engineering, education and enforcement capacity, and (iii) integration of road safety evaluation tools into CAREC road projects. The outcome will be strengthened capacity of CAREC governments to identify and address key road safety issues in their respective countries. The impact of the TA will be improvements in road safety performance in CAREC member countries. The principal target is for a 10% reduction in the number of fatalities per 100,000-population for CAREC member countries between 2010 and 2020.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:

- **Loss of life and injury:** An estimated 1.2-1.3 million people are killed, and up to 50 million injured, on the world's roads every year, and without decisive intervention the annual fatality toll is forecast to increase to more than 1.8 million by 2020. Over 90% of the world's fatalities on the road occur in low and middle income countries, which have only 48% of the world's registered vehicles. Low and middle income countries have higher road traffic fatality rates (21.5 and 19.5 per 100,000-population, respectively) than high income countries (10.3 per 100,000 populations). Traffic fatality rates in CAREC member countries range from 13.1 to 21.9 per 100,000-population. WHO predicts that road traffic injuries will rise to become the fifth leading cause of death by 2030. Considering current vehicle ownership rates, which are low and likely to increase over time, and future economic development in CAREC member countries, it is likely that, in the absence of concerted action on road safety, the toll of fatalities and injuries in the region will increase markedly over the coming decade. Road crashes are now a recognized problem and CAREC member countries have been undertaking actions to improve road safety. A number of countries have adopted national road safety strategies (e.g. Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, PRC and Uzbekistan), however, some are either unfunded or only partially funded. In many CAREC member countries there are strong, albeit varied, laws and policies relating to drink driving, seatbelt wearing, helmet use, and use of mobile phones whilst driving, with levels of police enforcement varying widely. However in general, road safety activities are under-resourced; additional (human and financial) resources are needed.
- **Poverty:** The burden of road collisions falls disproportionately on the poor, with more than half of all road casualties in the vulnerable road user category, i.e. pedestrians, cyclists or motorcyclists. Two-thirds of victims' families need to take loans to cover lost income and many families are driven into poverty or indebtedness as a result of road collision-related fatalities or injuries. Road collisions are however, preventable. Proper road safety management and coordination, improved data collection and research, engineering, enforcement and education initiatives, as well as post-crash care can all contribute to reducing the number and severity of road collisions. The CAREC Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy 2020 noted that it is economically and socially beneficial to invest in improving safety of the region's roads, and that support will be provided for road safety management capacity; safe approaches to the design, construction, operation and maintenance of road infrastructure; road safety performance measures and mobilizing resources for road safety measures.

Impact: Improvements in road safety performance in CAREC member countries

Outcome: Strengthened capacity of CAREC governments to identify and address key road safety issues in their respective countries

Outputs:

- CAREC road safety strategy published
- Strengthened capacity of CAREC member countries to manage and coordinate road safety activities, including improved data collection and road collision research, improved engineering, education, and enforcement capacity Integration of road safety evaluation tools into CAREC road projects

Business Opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48033-001

I. Improving the Performance of Labor Markets in the Pacific

TA No. : **8794**
Project No. : **46154-001**
Amount (US \$ million) : **0.75**
Sector : **Education; Public sector management**
Subsector : **Non-formal education; Technical and vocational education and training; Tertiary; Social protection initiatives**

Responsible ADB Officer: Andrew N. Parker, Pacific Department, Urban, Social Development & Public Management Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The Midterm Review of Strategy 2020 commits the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to expanding operations in education, with a focus on post-basic education, technical and vocational education and training, and higher education. The objective is to promote human capital development and the acquisition of the skills demanded by the market to improve employment prospects for the labor forces of developing member countries (DMCs), and increase resilience to economic shocks. This commitment is especially relevant to the Pacific, where human capacity development that enables productive, sustainable employment remains a significant challenge. The Pacific Approach, 2010 2014, which acts as ADB's country partnership strategy for the 10 smaller Pacific DMCs, highlights the particular need to involve women and youth in the development process to enable them to participate in the benefits of growth through increased employment and greater economic empowerment. The proposed technical assistance (TA) aims to improve labor market outcomes in the Pacific, including for women and youth, by supporting deeper analysis and understanding of labor markets, sharing knowledge on approaches that improve labor market performance, and promoting more collaborative approaches to developing and implementing labor market policies and programs. The TA complements ongoing economic policy TA, and seeks to strengthen labor market links to infrastructure and education sector operations in the Pacific.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Pacific labor markets are generally performing poorly. While there is considerable diversity among the 14 Pacific DMCs, there are examples across the region where unemployment and underemployment are both high, with a large proportion of the labor force engaged in subsistence activities; women's labor force participation is low; youth unemployment is high relative to other age groups; and the number of formal private sector jobs is limited. If these current challenging labor market conditions persist and recent population trends continue, the number of unemployed and underemployed people in the Pacific is likely to rise sharply in coming decades. Given the size of the regional labor force is expected to increase by about 45% to 9.6 million people by 2030, to avoid further increases in unemployment, nearly 1 million new formal sector jobs (an increase of 44% over current levels) need to be generated. This does not include providing formal jobs for a further 830,000 workers who will otherwise join the subsistence economy. Poor labor market outcomes result from the interaction of many factors. Skills mismatches can lead to a gap between the supply of skilled workers and industry demand. Inappropriate labor market regulation may limit the demand for labor by constraining private sector development. Large informal sectors in many Pacific DMCs result in low levels of labor productivity; while higher levels of public sector employment may crowd out private sector employment. Gender stereotyping and other forms of discrimination may limit the participation of women and youth in labor markets. A growing number of young people have inadequate foundational capabilities, so are unable to find productive employment. Fragile situations in many Pacific DMCs compound the labor market challenge. In these countries, weak institutions, insufficient capacity, and social tension may undermine effective policy and program implementation. There is a substantial body of ongoing and recently completed analysis on labor market issues in the Pacific. Information gaps will be assessed on a country-by-country basis. For example, in the case of Fiji, the TA will build on analytical work being undertaken by the Economics and Research Department. In two other Pacific DMCs, which will be selected during TA implementation, analytical work supported by the TA will be used to synthesize existing knowledge and data, and identify gaps. Key issues in labor market policy will be

identified and supported through the preparation of action plans and establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Impact: National development plans for Pacific DMCs systematically incorporate policies and programs to improve labor market performance

Outcome: Labor market policies and programs in participating Pacific DMCs are more evidence-based, collaboratively determined, and gender-focused

Outputs:

1. Development of regional knowledge-sharing and analysis platform on Pacific labor markets
2. Analysis of labor market performance in selected Pacific DMCs
3. Development of and support for partnerships to improve labor market outcomes

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=46154-001

J. Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation

TA No. : 8789
Project No. : 48335-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.4
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Transport policies and institutional development

Responsible ADB Officer: Ko Sakamoto, Central and West Asia Department, Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: CAREC South-South Knowledge Cooperation (SSKC) is proposed as a vehicle for generation, management and dissemination of knowledge aimed at strengthening TTFS 2020 implementation. The focus areas for CAREC South-South Knowledge Cooperation are based on TTFS 2020 operational priorities, with an emphasis on those topics on which CAREC countries have limited to no experience, and where policy advisory inputs and knowledge support under the RETA will add the most value.

These are: i. Innovation. Key topics include: Regional Multimodal/ Intermodal Connectivity (including Regional Logistics Hubs and Maritime Links) Designated Rail Corridor Services Coordinated Border Management Public-Private Partnerships ii. Sustainability. Key topics include: Safety Asset Management User Charges and Cost Recovery Green Freight and Logistics A key feature of CAREC SSKC will be that of horizontal partnership and mutual benefit among participating countries, so a win-win situation can emerge as an outcome for all vested parties. There are several examples of successful south-south knowledge cooperation around the world, including in the CAREC context. For e.g. Kyrgyz Republic had provided guidance to Tajikistan in the World Trade Organization accession. More recently, the CAREC trade facilitation team at ADB is trying out twinning arrangements between countries that have acceded to the Revised Kyoto Convention and those that have not. Based on this, the RETA will emphasize knowledge cooperation among CAREC countries and between CAREC countries and other regional cooperation initiatives. In doing so, the CAREC SSKC vehicle will provide a myriad of benefits for CAREC countries. It will facilitate learning and consensus-building on regional issues linked to effective TTFS 2020 implementation (e.g., harmonization of standards, designated rail corridor services); improve access to tested and adapted technology and tools without having to reinvent the wheel, and enable exchange of experience with countries that share similar constraints and opportunities. CAREC SSKC will also allow participating countries to showcase their successes, and increase their visibility as emerging "centers of innovation", and encourage opportunities for inter-country partnerships.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: A refined CAREC Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy 2020 (hereafter, TTFS 2020) was endorsed during the Twelfth Ministerial Conference on CAREC held in Astana on 23-24 October 2013. Compared to the original strategy, TTFS 2020 places a greater emphasis on multimodal corridor network development, trade and border crossing service improvements, and improvements to sustainability and quality of service, for improving trade and competitiveness. Against this backdrop, the proposed Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) on CAREC South-South Knowledge Cooperation will address the following issues: For several CAREC countries, transport sector investments and programming have been focused on linear infrastructure development (especially roads) with inadequate consideration given to modal integration, nodal and non-linear infrastructure improvements, and sustainability issues. There is now growing interest in many CAREC countries to reorient their policy and programs in line with the aforementioned TTFS 2020 operational priorities. However, these CAREC countries are constrained, despite their interest, to effectively deliver on these new areas as they have inadequate know-how and capabilities (policy, regulatory, institutional) to plan and implement appropriate policies and programs in these areas. At the same time, there is a wealth of experience in other countries (including developing ones) in implementing policies and programs in these areas, which CAREC countries can benefit from. Hence, there is a need to step up both policy and advisory support and scale up knowledge transfer to CAREC countries so they can effectively deliver on these TTFS 2020 priorities. To date, a number of knowledge services have been provided to CAREC countries on some of the TTFS 2020 priority areas, including seminars, trainings, technical assistance, etc. by ADB and Development Partners (DPs). However, this knowledge service provision has largely been one-off and silo-based, follow-up and operational linkages have been limited, and the organization and management of these knowledge resources poor thereby, constraining the effectiveness of these knowledge services. Going forward, there is a need for a knowledge management function to solicit good practices on these new TTFS 2020 priorities, index and catalog both past and new information, ensure dissemination of this knowledge in a form that is of operational use, and serve as an information broker to facilitate knowledge exchange between and among various stakeholders.

Impact: Enhanced quality of TTFS 2020 implementation

Outcome: Enhanced capacities of CAREC countries for effective TTFS 2020 implementation in the areas of transport and transport facilitation

Outputs:

1. Policy advisory and analytical work on selected TTFS 2020 topics conducted
2. Organization of knowledge on selected TTFS 2020 topics improved
3. Sharing of knowledge and experiences on selected TTFS 2020 topics enhanced
4. Skills and know-how for applying knowledge on selected TTFS 2020 topics in operational work strengthened

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48335-001

K. Enhancing Roles of Supreme Audit Institutions in Selected Association of Southeast Asian Nations Countries

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| TA No. | : | 8824 |
| Project No. | : | 47291-001 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 0.8 |
| Sector | : | Public sector management |
| Subsector | : | Public administration; Public expenditure and fiscal management |

Responsible ADB Officer: Agustina Musa, Southeast Asia Department, Office of the Director General

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description: The regional capacity development technical assistance (R-CDTA, the Project) aims to empower four supreme audit institutions (SAIs) of the Association of South East Asia Nations (ASEAN): (i) Badan Pemeriksa Keuangan (BPK the Indonesia s SAI), (ii) the Commission on Audit (COA, the Philippines SAI), (iii) the Office of Auditor General (OAG, Myanmar s SAI) and (iv) the State Audit Organization (SAO, SAI of Lao People Democratic Republic (PDR). The Project will improve the compliance of the financial audit of the selected SAIs with the international standards of SAI (ISSAI). The Project will work closely with ASEANSAI to disseminate the lessons learned from the four selected SAIs to its other members, especially for SAIs in Cambodia and Viet Nam. Based on lessons learned among SAIs, the Project will assist ASEANSAI to explore other investments to enable other SAIs to move towards full application of ISSAI and improve the quality of public finance audits in ASEAN.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=47291-001

L. Developing a Framework for a Liquefied Natural Gas Market in Asia

TA No. : **8805**
Project No. : **48244-001**
Amount (US \$ million) : **1.2**
Sector : **Multisector**
Subsector : **ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development**

Responsible ADB Officer: Anthony J. Jude, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Sustainable Infrastructure Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 December 2014.

Description: The Asian gas market is comprised of mature markets (Japan, South Korea), energy giants still developing their gas markets (People s Republic of China (PRC), India), and developing markets (South East Asian markets). The region's gas consumption is growing much faster than the worldwide average, with DMCs in the region increasingly reliant on imported LNG and projected to largely remain so for the foreseeable future. Future Asian natural gas demand depends heavily on the price of natural gas relative to coal as well as on the development of sufficient regional conventional and unconventional supplies. Imports are generally more expensive than the wholesale prices in many Asian countries, which have a long history of price subsidies (both in oil and natural gas). Moreover, Asian gas prices are not reflective of the regional supply/demand fundamentals of natural gas, but are linked through long-term contracts to the supply and demand of oil. Asian LNG prices are at record highs and LNG imports are becoming less affordable for some countries, and insufficient gas supply could seriously damage economic growth rates in a region where millions of people still lack access to modern energy. Additionally, gas has an important transition role to play as a lower emissions fuel than other fossil fuel use for power generation. In this context, transparent, efficient and well-functioning markets are an important tool to ensure that natural gas secures its place in the energy mix. Without a transparent gas price that reflects regional supply and demand fundamentals, it will be more difficult for gas producers to signal scarcity situations. This can result in a slower market response to (unexpected) gas shortages and therefore forms a security-of-supply risk. This risk has given rise to recent discussions of the need for a regional LNG trading hub that can facilitate Asian gas importers moving away from oil-linked long-term contracts, and towards gas-to-gas pricing models.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The proposed research aims to foster this transition to a more market-based system for Asian liquefied natural gas markets, through detailed analyses and subsequent recommendations on the fundamental changes that need to happen in both the supply and demand sides of Asian LNG markets. The International Energy Agency (IEA) is supporting current work that examines global gas market fundamentals from a supply perspective, and the geopolitical considerations related to activities and policies of major suppliers (such as Russia, Qatar and the United States). The proposed study will complement these studies, build on existing ASEAN dialogue, and look in detail at Asian LNG markets in the context of a changing global LNG market, to

make recommendations for the creation of a potential Asian LNG trading hub. Asia has an advantage in that it can learn from the lessons and experiences of trading hubs in North America and Europe (which is particularly relevant given recent market liberalization), for best practices in how to build and sustain such commodity markets.

Impact: A competitive market-based LNG sector in Asia will be fostered

Outcome: The understanding and appreciation of target DMCs of an efficient functioning of natural gas markets in Asia are enhanced

Outputs:

Completed research reports into aspects of development of a LNG Hub in Asia -

1. Situation analysis of the current gas market situation for selected countries
2. Supply side analysis
3. Shipping analysis
4. Local conditions analysis
5. Environmental and security impact assessment, including interactions between the power and gas sectors
6. Structural requirements of trading hub creation

Three summary reports compiled by country groupings Synthesis report publication

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48244-001

M. Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (Phase 2)

TA No. : 8797
Project No. : 48206-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.1
Sector : Multisector
Subsector : ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development

Responsible ADB Officer: Sonomi Tanaka, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Office of the Director General

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 December 2014.

Description: The Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Operational Plan (the Gender OP) 2013-2020 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Midterm Review of ADB's Strategy 2020 recognizes the need for targeted public policies on and direct investments in women and girls - on top of effective gender mainstreaming - to narrow persistent gender disparities and entrenched gender inequalities in Asia and the Pacific. This technical assistance (TA) will help accelerate ADB-wide efforts in effectively implement the Gender OP through pilot innovations, gender diagnostics, capacity development and partnerships.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The Asia and Pacific region has made considerable progress over the last decade in narrowing gender gaps in education, health, employment and political participation. However, progress has been uneven across the region and within countries. Gender inequalities persist in girls' secondary completion, high maternal and infant mortality, access to paid employment, participation in politics and decision-making, and access to land, assets and financial services. Many women in the region, particularly in rural areas, still lack access to basic infrastructure and services such as water supply, sanitation, electricity and affordable transportation. Discriminatory gender norms and practices remain entrenched across the region, often manifesting in gender-based violence, reverse sex ratios at birth and early and child marriage. The region is home to the largest numbers of missing women globally; high rates of gender based violence, and early and child marriage

(between 45%-65%) especially in South Asia. These cultural and social norms undermine and slow down progress on moving the gender equality agenda forward. Public policies and targeted programs are needed to close the remaining gender gaps and accelerate progress on delivering the unfinished gender equality agenda. ADB's Gender OP provides the guiding framework and road map for ADB's gender operations to 2020. Both Gender OP and the Midterm Review of Strategy 2020 recognize that gender mainstreaming needs to be complemented with more targeted interventions to close the remaining gender gaps in the region. While gender mainstreaming has delivered good results, opportunities for direct investment in women and girls are needed in areas such as girls secondary education and completion, access to productive assets, jobs, and income-earning opportunities, school-to-work transition and skills training for employment, business development services for women entrepreneurs, financial services and access to credit, labor-saving technology to reduce women's time poverty, policy and legal reforms to tackle gender based violence and gender inequalities, and giving women voice in decision making. The TA builds on the successful experience and lessons learned from the Regional TA (RETA) 6143 Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment being closed in December 2014. RETA 6143 has served as an implementation facility of the Gender and Development Cooperation Fund (GDCF). RETA 6143 supported the two previous gender plans of action of ADB, leveraged the gender equality designs and results in 78 ADB loan projects and 12 country partnership strategies, and contributed to increasing the number of projects with gender mainstreaming and preparing country gender assessments and strategies. The RETA also sensitized executing and implementing agencies on key gender issues through flagship South-South lateral learning events in a range of sectors and themes, such as water, environment, energy, urban, transport, education, food security, and economic empowerment, some of which were conducted in partnerships with other development partners. The new TA will focus more explicitly on pilot innovations to identify potential approaches for addressing persistent and entrenched gender inequalities, which could be expanded and replicated in lending operations.

Impact: Successful delivery of gender equality results in ADB operations in developing member countries (DMCs) improved

Outcome: Identification and development of direct investments in women and girls in ADB lending operations increased

Outputs:

- Gender equality designs and results in lending operations (informed by quality diagnostics) improved
- Pilot initiatives with key lessons for scaling up implemented
- Gender knowledge products and services in DMCs enhanced
- Partnerships on gender equality strengthened

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48206-001

N. Enhanced Use of Disaster Risk Information for Decision Making in Southeast Asia

TA No. : 8812
Project No. : 48264-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Public expenditure and fiscal management

Responsible ADB Officer: Anil Pokhrel, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Climate Change Coordination & Disaster Risk Management Unit

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 December 2014.

Description: The TA will strengthen capacity of selected Southeast Asia DMCs in using disaster risk information for decision-making related to investment planning by: (i) strengthening systems for

systematic collection and analysis of historical disaster data; (ii) improving understanding, communicating, and raising awareness of disaster risk among sector and planning ministries; and (iii) improving understanding of tracking of DRM-related investments. The DMCs will be selected based on: (i) their commitment to mainstream DRM in development process as reflected in national DRM-related policies; and (ii) ongoing work in related topics, such as ongoing work on development of national disaster databases. The TA will also support strengthening the use of disaster risk information in ADB's investments in the selected DMCs.

Impact: Improved risk-sensitive decision making for public investments in selected Southeast Asian DMCs

Outcome: Improved capacity in selected Southeast Asian DMCs to integrate DRM in the development processes

Outputs:

1. Disaster dataset for selected line agency or city entered in the national disaster loss database of Cambodia, the Lao PDR, and Myanmar
2. Report on scope and recommendations for integration of disaster risk information in public investment planning process in Cambodia, the Lao PDR, and Myanmar
3. Review and dialogue on potential reform to strengthen the institutional arrangements for managing DRM-related public expenditures for the Lao PDR and Thailand
4. Regional knowledge sharing on enhanced use of disaster risk information for decision making in Southeast Asia

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48264-001

O. Piloting a Field-Integrated Review and Standardized Tool for Involuntary Resettlement

TA No. : 8778
Project No. : 47297-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.5
Sector : **Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services**
Subsector : **Road transport (non-urban); urban water supply**

Responsible ADB Officer: Andrew McIntyre, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Environment and Safeguards Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 8 December 2014.

Description: The TA will help enhance effectiveness and inclusiveness of ADB-supported projects in the Philippines, Viet Nam, and/or PRC by developing a tool to generate cost-effective and implementable involuntary resettlement safeguard planning documents through the use of the Involuntary Resettlement: Field Integrated Review and Standardized Tool (IR-FIRST). The IR-First tool will be pilot tested by participating executing and/or implementing agencies (EAs/IAs) in Philippines, Viet Nam and/or PRC. The use of the IR-First tool is expected to result in resettlement plans and frameworks that can effectively deliver the results of involuntary resettlement safeguards as adopted in the Safety Policy Statement.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The proposed technical assistance (TA) seeks to overcome current inefficiencies in the collection, analysis, and storage of land acquisition resettlement data and that many DMCs experience. It will design, develop and pilot-test the IR-FIRST. The tool will be used in ADB projects undergoing preparatory technical assistance in the Philippines, Viet Nam, and/or PRC in 2016. The TA will take advantage of up-to-date electronic ICT tools, or e-tools, as well as geographical information systems (GIS) and mobile devices such as tablets.

Impact: Effectiveness and inclusiveness of ADB-supported projects enhanced

Outcome: Cost-effective and implementation-ready resettlement plans prepared

Outputs:

1. A master set of standardized involuntary resettlement survey forms and reports and IR-FIRST tool developed
2. Knowledge products and learning tools developed, designed and disseminated

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=47297-001

P. Knowledge for Solutions - South-South Knowledge Sharing Program (Subproject 2)

TA No. : 8831
Project No. : 48242-004
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.41
Sector : Agriculture, natural resources and rural development; Education; Energy; Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services
Subsector : Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development; Education sector development; Energy sector development and institutional reform; Transport policies and institutional development; Urban policy, institutional and capacity development

Responsible ADB Officer: Young Uck Kang, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Knowledge Sharing and Services Center

Status: ADB Board approved on 8 December 2014.

Description: The proposed subproject is part of a broader cluster regional capacity development technical assistance (TA) that will use knowledge, technology, and partnerships to connect development practitioners in the common pursuit of solving development problems. The cluster TA will foster an enabling platform for ADB to work as One ADB by creating structures and systems to better link its knowledge and operations with developing member country (DMC) practitioners and development partners. By taking fresh approaches to peer-to-peer sharing, learning, knowledge capture, and problem solving, ADB may be able to work more efficiently with its DMCs to solve development problems faster. The proposed subproject focuses on developing a platform for South-South Knowledge Sharing (SSKS) by complementing and building upon existing efforts, such as sub-regional knowledge sharing endeavors, including the Phnom Penh Plan, the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute, and Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative (RKSI) by East Asia Department (EARD) and sector-based twinning programs in the water and urban sectors. Similar efforts can also be found in knowledge sharing activities by India Resident Mission (INRM) under South Asia Department (SARD) and among Great Mekong Subregion (GMS) under Southeast Asia Department (SERD).

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Strategy 2020 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) mandates ADB to develop, mobilize, and apply knowledge solutions to help the poor in our DMCs. The midterm review of Strategy 2020 highlights that DMCs increasingly seek ADB's knowledge to address complex challenges, improve the development impact of operations, and develop into knowledge economies. The midterm review of Strategy 2020, the President's 10 points in his 21 November 2013 memorandum on Reforming ADB's Institution-Wide Knowledge Management, the Planning Directions: Work Program and Budget Framework 2015 2017, and the first Knowledge Operations Review Meeting (KORM) all provide fresh impetus and direction for taking a unified One ADB approach to sharing knowledge with DMCs and serving as a source of best practices. A special evaluation study recommended ADB improve its approach to capturing, sharing, and using knowledge. The Knowledge Management Directions and Action Plan (2013 2015) (KMAP) builds on those findings by defining ADB's

goals in this area and providing a plan for transformational actions. The KMAP specifically recognizes the need for strategic and programmatic partnerships with COEs and knowledge hubs, expanded ADB operations for innovation and pilot-testing, greater South-South knowledge sharing, and easier access to data and information. Multilateral organizations, including through interregional knowledge sharing, are becoming increasingly important for enhancing effectiveness in development through capturing and sharing good developmental experiences common to developing countries. ADB, in its Midterm Review (MTR) of Strategy 2020, proposes country directors of resident missions as Knowledge Custodians (MTR 3.4) and the Country Knowledge Management Plans (CKP) (MTR 1.2.4.3) as a mandatory component of the Country Partnership Strategy (CPS). In this context, the Middle Income Countries (MICs) and Upper Middle Income Countries (UMICs) have specific demand for knowledge from within the region in areas such as: (i) mitigating inequalities; (ii) addressing demographic change; and (iii) boosting productivity and competitiveness by developing the private sector. Including these areas, SSKS plays a much more important role than any investment or financial assistance ADB could possibly extend to UMICs. In addition, UMICs also have vast amounts of successful economic and social development experiences that could be more widely shared with other DMCs. To meet the objectives of enhancing knowledge solutions (defined as case studies, research, big data analysis, pilot demonstration activities, experimentation, and information used to solve development problems) in DMCs, a platform that would enable faster and more flexible responses to country knowledge needs to support SSKS activities as One ADB is required more than ever. The main issues of current SSKS arise from lack of financial resources to readily respond to the knowledge needs and demands of DMCs, absence of an internal mechanism for assembling existing knowledge and experience of ADB, and unclear monitoring, capturing, and sharing of project-based SSKS. (See the supplementary attachment for more information) Subsequently, the approach on SSKS taken by ADB as a regional development institution has several areas that can be improved by: (i) linking efforts at the project level to each other to ensure knowledge flows out of one DMC and into another; (ii) creating an operational mechanism to understand and respond to knowledge demand and supply of DMCs across the boundaries of ADB's regional departments; (iii) creating a platform by which knowledge (including third-party content) held by ADB staff and consultants, DMCs, and development partners can be freely exchanged; and (iv) systematically capturing the use of knowledge by DMCs and the impact of knowledge sharing.

Impact: The overall impact of the TA will be DMCs adopting knowledge solutions addressing priority needs in Asia and the Pacific.

Outcome: The expected outcome will be ADB delivering knowledge solutions in line with respective country knowledge plans.

Outputs:

1. Knowledge solution and sharing mechanism (KSSM) developed
2. Pilot knowledge solution exercises conducted
3. Documentation of solutions shared via dedicated knowledge portal

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48242-004

Q. Knowledge for Solutions - Knowledge Portal (Subproject 3)

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|-------------------------------|---|---|
| TA No. | : | 8833 |
| Project No. | : | 48242-005 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 0.56 |
| Sector | : | Information and communication technology |
| Subsector | : | ICT industries and ICT-enabled services |

Responsible ADB Officer: Carolyn D. Cabrera, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Knowledge Sharing and Services Center

Status: ADB Board approved on 8 December 2014.

Description: The proposed subproject is part of a broader cluster regional capacity development technical assistance (TA) that will use knowledge, technology, and partnerships to connect development practitioners in the common pursuit of solving development problems. The cluster TA will foster an enabling platform for ADB to work as One ADB by creating structures and systems to better link its knowledge and operations with developing member country (DMC) practitioners and development partners. By taking fresh approaches to peer-to-peer sharing, learning, knowledge capture, and problem solving, ADB may be able to work more efficiently with its DMCs to solve development problems faster. The proposed subproject will develop an online portal that will promote knowledge sharing and collaboration, and serve as the digital basis for the other two cluster TA subprojects (which focus on centers of excellence and South-South knowledge sharing) and planned or existing activities by ADB's regional departments, resident missions, and sector and thematic groups (formerly called communities of practice).

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Strategy 2020 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) mandates ADB to develop, mobilize, and apply knowledge solutions to help the poor in our DMCs. The midterm review of Strategy 2020 highlights that DMCs increasingly seek ADB's knowledge to address complex challenges, improve the development impact of operations, and develop into knowledge economies. The midterm review of Strategy 2020, the President's 10 points in his 21 November 2013 memorandum on Reforming ADB's Institution-Wide Knowledge Management, the Planning Directions: Work Program and Budget Framework 2015-2017, and the first Knowledge Operations Review Meeting (KORM) all provide fresh impetus and direction for taking a unified One ADB approach to sharing knowledge with DMCs and serving as a source of best practices. A special evaluation study recommended ADB improve its approach to capturing, sharing, and using knowledge. The Knowledge Management Directions and Action Plan (2013-2015) (KMAP) builds on those findings by defining ADB's goals in this area and providing a plan for transformational actions. The KMAP specifically recognizes the need for strategic and programmatic partnerships with COEs and knowledge hubs, expanded ADB operations for innovation and pilot-testing, greater South-South knowledge sharing, and easier access to data and information. In general, ADB's stakeholders see ADB as having a very strong impact on overall development and being an excellent source of knowledge. However, despite knowledge solutions (defined as case studies, research, big data analysis, pilot demonstration activities, experimentation, and information used to solve development problems) being a driver of change, only half give good marks for promoting knowledge sharing and best practices. The MTR Action Plan directs ADB, along with other activities, to develop a knowledge portal (action item 3.9.6) to help address this gap.

Impact: The overall impact of the TA will be DMCs adopting knowledge solutions addressing priority needs in Asia and the Pacific.

Outcome: The expected outcome will be ADB delivering knowledge solutions in line with respective country knowledge plans.

Outputs: Operational knowledge-sharing portal established and maintained, with target users engaging with ADB and peers

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48242-005

R. Knowledge for Solutions - Partnerships-Centers of Excellence (Subproject 1)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| TA No. | : | 8827 |
| Project No. | : | 48242-006 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 0.53 |
| Sector | : | Education; Energy; Health and social protection; Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services; |
| Subsector | : | Education sector development; Energy sector development and institutional reform; Health sector development and reform; |

**Transport policies and institutional development; Urban policy,
institutional and capacity development**

Responsible ADB Officer: K. E. Seetharam, Regional and Sustainable Development Department,
Knowledge Sharing and Services Center

Status: ADB Board approved on 8 December 2014.

Description: The proposed subproject is part of a broader cluster regional capacity development technical assistance (TA) that will use knowledge, technology, and partnerships to connect development practitioners in the common pursuit of solving development problems. The cluster TA will foster an enabling platform for ADB to work as One ADB by creating structures and systems to better link its knowledge and operations with developing member country (DMC) practitioners and development partners. By taking fresh approaches to peer-to-peer sharing, learning, knowledge capture, and problem solving, ADB may be able to work more efficiently with its DMCs to solve development problems faster. The proposed subproject will establish institutional level partnerships that allow ADB to proactively partner with centers of excellence (COEs) that have specific research activities that can directly contribute to ADB's work programs in selected countries.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Strategy 2020 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) mandates ADB to develop, mobilize, and apply knowledge solutions to help the poor in our DMCs. The midterm review of Strategy 2020 highlights that DMCs increasingly seek ADB's knowledge to address complex challenges, improve the development impact of operations, and develop into knowledge economies. The midterm review of Strategy 2020, the President's 10 points in his 21 November 2013 memorandum on Reforming ADB's Institution-Wide Knowledge Management, the Planning Directions: Work Program and Budget Framework 2015 2017, and the first Knowledge Operations Review Meeting (KORM) all provide fresh impetus and direction for taking a unified One ADB approach to sharing knowledge with DMCs and serving as a source of best practices. A special evaluation study recommended ADB improve its approach to capturing, sharing, and using knowledge. The Knowledge Management Directions and Action Plan (2013 2015) (KMAP) builds on those findings by defining ADB's goals in this area and providing a plan for transformational actions. The KMAP specifically recognizes the need for strategic and programmatic partnerships with COEs and knowledge hubs, expanded ADB operations for innovation and pilot-testing, greater South-South knowledge sharing, and easier access to data and information. The KMAP and KORM suggest ADB use its operations cycle to ensure ADB's knowledge solutions are DMC-led. The MTR Action Plan directs ADB to appoint country directors of resident missions as knowledge custodians, authorized to coordinate the design and implementation of country knowledge management plans create a framework involving flexible procurement rules and financing arrangements to facilitate strategic knowledge partnerships with external institutions, including research and academic institutions and civil society organizations and individuals; and develop a knowledge portal.

Impact: The overall impact of the TA will be DMCs adopting knowledge solutions addressing priority needs in Asia and the Pacific.

Outcome: The expected outcome will be ADB delivering knowledge solutions in line with respective country knowledge plans.

Outputs: Centers of excellence (COEs) actively providing ideas (knowledge solutions) to solve problems

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48242-006

S. Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2016

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| TA No. | : | 8779 |
| Project No. | : | 48201-001 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 0.75 |
| Sector | : | Education; Finance; Health and social protection; Industry and trade; Information and communication technology; Public sector management; Transport |
| Subsector | : | Education sector development; Finance sector development; Health system development; Industry and trade sector development; ICT infrastructure; Economic affairs management; Transport policies and institutional development |

Responsible ADB Officer: Xuehui Han, Development Indicators and Policy Research Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 5 December 2014.

Description: Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific, prepared by the Economics and Research Department, is one of the annual flagship publications of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). It provides the latest comprehensive compendium and analysis of trends in economic, social, financial, and Millennium Development Goal (MDG) indicators of ADB's regional members. It also contains a special chapter that provides in-depth, data-intensive policy analysis of an important policy issue. In general, Key Indicators provides a strong data and information support system for evidence-based policy making. The impact of Key Indicators 2016 will be to influence the environment in which economic monitoring and policy formulation, investment decisions, and new projects occur, especially in ADB's DMCs. Potential performance targets include citations over the long term to the analytical work produced from this product in formal policy documents by donors and DMCs. The outcome will be that by the end of the project, Key Indicators 2016 will be referred to by policy makers and economic researchers within and outside ADB, as well as by the public. The improved content of Key Indicators 2016 will provide: (i) information on economic trends and emerging policy issues that affect the development prospects of DMCs; (ii) high-quality data presented in the country, regional, and post-2015 development agenda tables; and (iii) new indicators on a specific theme. Potential performance targets would be short-term citations by reputable media outlets and invitations to speak on topics covered by Key Indicators.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: In recognition of the ADB's strategic agenda of promoting inclusive growth and managing for development results, the TA will help support evidence-based research on the regulation of factor markets and other relevant development issues. It will also aid in producing economic, demographic, social, infrastructure, and environmental indicators, including the MDG indicators, and indicators of inclusive growth for monitoring results at the country level. Both research and statistics are ultimately keys for understanding inclusive growth and developing evidence-based policies. The Key Indicators 2016 was identified as a corporate priority TA during the TA resource allocation meeting.

Impact: The impact of KI 2016 and their supplements will influence the formulation of policies in the DMCs based on rigorous evidence-based research findings and timely and reliable statistics.

Outcome: The Key Indicators 2016 will be referred to by policy makers and/or economic researchers within and outside the ADB, as well as by the general public.

Outputs:

- Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2016 main publication and online links to Key Indicators 2016 statistical tables, special chapter, and new indicators on a specific theme
- Background research papers and data sets collected/generated for Key Indicators 2016
- Preparatory workshops and dissemination seminars

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48201-001

T. Supporting Industrial Park Development in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Region

TA No. : 8782
Project No. : 48370-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.75
Sector : Industry and trade
Subsector : Industry and trade sector development

Responsible ADB Officer: Guoliang Wu, Central and West Asia Department, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 4 December 2014.

Description: The MTR of Strategy 2020 underscores that with the radically difference of regional and global economic contexts now, ADB will complement its cross-border infrastructure connectivity investments with measures to promote the drivers of second-generation RCI. The CAREC 2020 envisions that developing economic corridors can help diversify the region s industries and make them more competitive through technology, logistics and other business support services. The RCI sections in the relevant country CPSs also include support to the CAREC Program with the flagship initiative of regional economic corridor development as strategic development priority. This proposed technical assistance (TA) plans to improve the policy framework for SITP planning, developing and upgrading in CAREC countries to improve the region s industrial productivity and competitiveness. Thus, it is consistent with the MTR of Strategy 2020, RCI pillar of the ADB's Strategy 2020, ADB's RCI Strategy 2006, CAREC 2020 and relevant country CPSs.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: In the refined CAREC Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy 2020 (TTFS 2020), developing multimodal corridor network, improving trade and border crossing services, and improving operational and institutional effectiveness are identified as the operational priorities. It also aims to establish and operationalize five regional multimodal logistics centers by 2020. Industrial park development will bolster these goals from the downstream and promote corridor development driven by the industrial demand. Sound economic policy supporting the development of transport and business infrastructure can boost trade, promote economic diversification and competitiveness, and in turn promote productivity. Effective business infrastructure may include building of science, industrial and technology parks (SITPs), which are often located at transport nodes. Effective business infrastructure is crucial for the development of industrial and economic corridors, resulting ultimately in deeper regional integration, economic growth and better life for all. In this regard, industrial parks support start-ups, new enterprise incubation, and development of knowledge-based businesses. Many countries in the CAREC region, however, lack strategic planning in promoting the development of these SITPs and business incubators for pursuing inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Appropriate regulatory framework, vital for gaining investors' confidence, is also missing. CAREC countries are at different stages of business infrastructure development. Kazakhstan is at a relatively advanced stage, the Kyrgyz Republic is at a nascent stage in planning and developing various types of industrial parks. Kazakhstan has established a number of SITPs, while legislation relating to establishment of parks and regulation of their activities are still under development. Existing legislation does not fully address these aspects, undermining cohesive and strategic development of industrial parks at the national and local levels. In the Kyrgyz Republic, there has been little strategic planning in promoting the development of industrial zones, industrial parks, business incubators and clusters. Currently, the Kyrgyz Republic has four free economic zones but no operating SITPs. This TA proposes to focus on these two pilot countries which are more representative among CAREC countries in terms of its different development levels of industrial parks, which will provide useful lessons and experiences for other CAREC countries.

Impact: More inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the CAREC region

Outcome: Improved policy for industrial park development in Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic

Outputs:

1. Background studies on industrial park development in Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic prepared
2. Strategic frameworks for industrial park development in Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic developed

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48370-001

U. Mekong Business Initiative (MBI)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| TA No. | : | 8785 |
| Project No. | : | 48270-001 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 0.5 |
| Sector | : | Public sector management |
| Subsector | : | Public administration |

Responsible ADB Officer: Dominic P. Mellor, Southeast Asia Department, Viet Nam Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 3 December 2014.

Description: The Mekong Business Initiative (MBI) will be an advisory and advocacy facility to promote private sector development (PSD) in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) region, with a focus on Cambodia, Laos PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam (CLMV). The MBI objective of promoting business environment reforms in CLMV aligns to the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Strategy 2020 strategic focus on PSD, as well as the GMS Economic Cooperation Program Strategic Framework 2012- 2022 recognition of the critical role of the private sector as an engine of GMS development. MBI will facilitate regional economic integration in CLMV towards AEC by supporting implementation of IAI and development of SMEs. It will adopt a focused and strategic approach towards aligning national and regional PSD agendas. The MBI will think regionally and act nationally in that it is a regional initiative focusing on common regional issues, but offering national solutions. This will make the MBI a truly regional initiative, with outcomes being achieved at both national and regional levels. Success of the MBI will depend critically on its modality. The MBI design will enable ADB to rapidly mobilize targeted expertise for analytical work, policy reform, and capacity building in response to government and private sector requests for assistance. Significant resources will be set aside to support reform implementation (supplementary appendix C). The MBI relies on an understanding of political economy, and on in-built flexibility to disengage and change focus as circumstances require. Reforming the business environment takes many years and requires sustained political and policy support. A key feature of MBI is that it will be demand driven, can respond quickly to requests from CLMV, and provide ongoing support to implement the reforms and achieve tangible results. MBI aims to take novel approaches to PSD in the region; inevitably some of the initiatives that it undertakes will be experimental. Even if initiatives are based on sound analytical work and monitored closely, some unsuccessful reform efforts are inevitable because of their inherent complexity. Accordingly, the MBI will develop M&E framework that allows for close monitoring of projects to limit cost of stalled projects, allow for strategic exits, and provide a framework for learning for the future. The initiative will also engage closely with Thailand and the People's Republic of China (PRC) through the GMS Business Forum (GMS-BF). MBI will also engage and transfer knowledge from ASEAN economies outside of the GMS, as well as global best practices.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The private sector in CLMV is still in its infancy after long history of centralized planning and government control. While the business communities in CLMV are diverse in nature and PSD challenges country specific, all countries face common problems during the transition toward market economies. Despite of past and on-going regulatory reforms spurred by commitments under various free trade agreements (FTAs), across CLMV there remains an absence of a legal platform necessary to support a robust and developing private sector. Business laws are often inappropriate and poorly implemented in key areas of business

formation, contracting, corporate governance, and insolvency. They are rarely used by a significant portion of the population and do not foster the economic inclusion of community groups, women's groups, associations of small farmers, and local entrepreneurs. These groups also have limited access and knowledge about finance services and their use. The low level of access to finance is partly the result of the geographical characteristics the GMS as it is costly to provide services in remote areas. There is need to assist entrepreneurs in the informal sector to formalize their businesses, opening opportunities to access formal financial institutions and to take advantage of the modernization of business laws. New and rapidly evolving technologies hold the promise of overcoming some of these obstacles but to date opportunities have not been fully explored. These constraints stifle entrepreneurship and drive up the cost of doing business, increase opportunities for corruption and dominant state-owned enterprises, affecting the competitiveness of individual GMS countries, as well as their socio-economic development outcomes. These common constraints were identified in private sector assessments for the CLMV countries. Many traditional factors motivating economic cooperation present themselves in the GMS. Complementary resources and levels of income suggest opportunities for intraregional trade and investment. Economic cooperation can lower transaction costs by reducing structural and institutional impediments to movement of goods, people, and capital. By acting together, GMS partners can exploit economies of scale and competitive efficiencies enabling activities that otherwise may not occur. Given the strong economic inter-linkages among the CLMV countries, they can benefit considerably by coordinating their PSD efforts. There are opportunities for provisioning of regional public goods where CLMV countries currently lack the capacity or resources for national institutions. Establishing common regional standards and benchmarks can also spur reforms. CLMV countries are all pursuing business environment reforms under national PSD agendas to create an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Economic Community (AEC) by 31 December 2015 specific AEC targets relate to business regulatory environment, trade facilitation, liberalization of services, and investment, among others. Since 2008, as measured by the AEC Scorecard, ASEAN has made slow but steady progress towards reaching AEC targets but is expected to fall short by the deadline. CLMV countries generally lag behind more developed ASEAN economies because of their limited capacity to implement reforms. Narrowing the ASEAN development gap poses one of the greatest challenges for the AEC. The risk is a two-tier or three-tier ASEAN could slow down the integration process and hurt regional competitiveness. To address the issue of the economic divide between CLMV and more developed ASEAN economies, there are several programs on hard and soft infrastructure being initiated at the regional and subregional levels. These include the Initiative for ASEAN integration (IAI) and the GMS program. Existing support to AEC implementation under the GMS program is focused primarily on pillar 1 (Trade facilitation, and strengthening food security and cooperation under agriculture sector) and pillar 2 (Infrastructure development, and development of energy and mineral cooperation). Interventions under pillar 3 (development of SMEs, and implementation of IAI) have been more limited and the private sector's role in both the IAI and GMS program has been minor. A recent business survey showed considerable divergence in awareness of the AEC and associated opportunities across CLMV countries. Revitalizing institutions, such as the GMS Business Forum, is needed to develop platforms for dialogue and information sharing for the private sector. Several political economy factors have hindered AEC progress in CLMV, including: (i) vested interests associated with dominant domestic interests and priorities, (ii) legitimate concerns of stakeholders such as labor and environmental groups concerned about adverse consequences of economic integration, and (iii) pursuit of FTAs that could support or impede AEC policy commitments. These factors have undermined the strength of AEC institutions and weakened monitoring and feedback mechanisms. Government and business leaders realize that improving the national investment climates and making good on commitments towards regional economic integration are critical to remain competitive and to sustain economic growth. The challenging reform agenda has triggered increased demand for timely and high quality policy advice on business environment reform issues. Development partners have responded with many on-going PSD activities across the GMS countries. Existing national level activities are however quite fragmented. Strengthened linkages and synergies with existing political commitments under AEC will give more momentum to national business reform agendas and bring about greater strategic focus. An evaluation of a past regional PSD policy advisory trust fund managed by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) emphasized the importance of maintaining strategic focus, effective portfolio monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework, and donor coordination.

Impact: The private sector in CLMV, especially SMEs benefit from regional integration and create employment

Outcome: Improved business enabling environment for SMEs in CLMV

Outputs:

- Improved functioning of national and regional markets for SME financial services, addressing supply and demand issues
- Improved business regulatory environment that incentivizes business formalization and supports regional harmonization and integration
- Improved provision of strategic and knowledge management services

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48270-001

V. Education and Skills for Employment in Central and West Asia

TA No. : 8774
Project No. : 47312-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Education
Subsector : Secondary; Technical and vocational education and training

Responsible ADB Officer: Jazira Asanova, Central and West Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 3 December 2014.

Description: The TA will (i) undertake education sector assessments; (ii) prepare cross-cutting regional knowledge products and working papers; (iii) prepare roadmaps and specific focus notes for change based on country demand, and (iv) develop capacity building programs.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: In the past 20 years, developing member countries (DMCs) served by Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Central and West Asia Regional Department (CWRD) have undertaken a range of economic and social reforms to support transition of their economies. Despite the achievements, CWRD countries face challenges to boosting their global and regional competitiveness. A 2011 report from the Organization of Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) highlighted showed that less underdeveloped education and training systems represent one of the three major challenges to improving competitiveness of these economies. While the existing human capital base in most CWRD countries has a number of strengths, such as high literacy rates and high primary enrolment rates, challenges remain. There are, including skills gaps, reliance on imported labor in some countries while there is major and significant outmigration for work in other countries, unemployment, and underdeveloped research and innovation capacity, leading to making these DMCs less competitive economies. Significant improvement is required in the education and skill levels of the workforce in the CWRD countries to further their development levels. A number of the CWRD countries are at or are approaching middle-income levels. If these countries are to maintain their growth rates, they need to transform into knowledge-based economies. In the past, ADB has supported education sector development in selected developing member countries (DMCs) in Central and West Asia. Responding to expressed country and regional needs and to Strategy 2020 midterm review initial findings, and there is a need to continue and expand. It is important to take a more ADB's strategic approach to CWRD involvement in the education sector in CWRD countries. The proposed regional technical assistance (TA) grant of \$1.5 million has been designed to respond to the human capital needs in CWRD countries and to support ADB's policy dialogue in the education sector in this subregion. The TA will incorporate lessons learned in improving education and training systems and develop a better understanding of constraints and opportunities in these countries CWRD DMC education sector development of CWRD countries.

Impact: Improved education and skills training systems aligned to employment requirements in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan

Outcome: Increased knowledge and capacity of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan to adopt appropriate policies and investments in education and skills development

Outputs:

- Thematic analytical studies and knowledge products completed
- Capacity-building programs developed and delivered to education policy makers

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=47312-001

W. Implementation of Sustainable Transport in Asia and the Pacific - New Approaches to Implement Sustainable Low Carbon Transport in the Asia and Pacific Region (Subproject 5)

TA No. : 8189
Project No. : 45105-003
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.9
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Urban public transport

Responsible ADB Officer: Nana S R H Soetantri, Regional and Sustainable Development Department

Status: ADB Board approved on 17 December 2014.

Description: In Asian cities, rapid urbanization and the rising incomes are leading to a doubling of the motor fleet every 5-7 years. The uncontrolled growth in motorized traffic is resulting in a rapid growth in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. Transport presently contributes a quarter of the world's energy-related CO₂ emissions and this share is expected to grow. The developing member countries (DMCs) across the region are currently developing strategies to address the sector's emissions. However, these are in their early stages. Hence, there is a growing and urgent need for ADB to increase support for sustainable low carbon transport in Asian cities and countries. The impact of this subproject is improved sustainable low carbon transport systems in DMCs. The key outcome of the project is the improved knowledge and capacity of relevant government agencies in the DMCs to develop and implement low carbon transport systems in urban transport, railways, inland waterways and freight and logistics, and to mobilize carbon finance for such projects. Subsectors to be covered include urban transport (including transportation demand management, public transport as well as non-motorized transport), intercity railways, inland waterways and green freight and logistics. These collectively cover the core priority areas of STI-OP. Geographically, the subproject will aim to cover every region of Asia and the Pacific, by working closely with operational departments to identify key countries and cities where firm opportunities for interventions are existent.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The TA will help promote modes of transport which have low CO₂ emissions and local emissions, by conceptualizing and developing opportunities for future investments and policy interventions. The growing CO₂ emissions from transport in Asia as well as the local air pollution in Asian cities are serious development issues which can be tackled through the development of low carbon modes of transport which will shift people away from the polluting modes to cleaner forms of transport. The subproject follows the regional TA on Implementation of Asian City Transport (TA 7243), which supported policy and pilot project development for selected cities (Kathmandu, Vientiane and Davao) and knowledge development and dissemination for promotion of sustainable, low carbon transport in DMCs. This subproject will expand the coverage, both in terms of subsectors as well as geography, to further scale up the implementation of sustainable low carbon transport. Low carbon transport projects and policies typically require specific expertise and additional resources as they tend to be more complex, lacking in knowledge/capacity and therefore, higher in terms

of risk. This subproject is designed to overcome such risks and scale up the implementation of low carbon transport projects and policies by: (i) strengthening capacity of transport institutions and agencies, (ii) undertaking feasibility studies for low carbon transport projects, and (iii) exploring carbon financing and other forms of innovative funding opportunities to support DMCs.

Impact: Improved sustainable low carbon transport systems in DMCs

Outcome: Improved knowledge and capacity of DMCs to develop and implement low carbon transport systems, including in urban transport, railways, inland waterways and freight and logistics, and to mobilize carbon finance for such projects

Outputs:

- Recommendations for improvements to national and local policies based on review of existing low carbon transport policies
- Workshops and training sessions for capacity building of national and local governments and line agencies
- Conceptual project and program plans for developing low carbon transport in each participating city and country
- Greater contribution of carbon finance in financing climate change mitigation transport projects

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=45105-003

X. Sector and Thematic Analyses in Policy Development

TA No. : 8819
Project No. : 48345-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.8
Sector : **Education; Energy; Information and communication technology; Public sector management; Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services**
Subsector : **Education sector development and institutional reform; ICT strategy and policy, and capacity development; Economic affairs management; Transport policies and institutional development; Urban policy, institutional and capacity development**

Responsible ADB Officer: Laisiasa Tora, Pacific Department
Urban, Social Development & Public Management Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 16 December 2014.

Description: The TA project will support the efforts of the governments of 12 of the 14 Pacific DMCs to improve policy formulation and decision making through rigorous sector and thematic analyses. Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste are not included because they can get country level assistance.

Impact: More effective policy development

Outcome: Improved sector and thematic analyses

Outputs:

- Improvement in sector and thematic assessments
- Promotion of South-South knowledge cooperation

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48345-001

SRI LANKA

A. Improving Project Readiness and Portfolio Management

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| TA No. | : | 8798 |
| Project No. | : | 48374-001 |
| Amount (US \$ million) | : | 1 |
| Sector | : | Energy; Public sector management; Transport; Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services |
| Subsector | : | Energy sector development and institutional reform; Public administration; Transport policies and institutional development; Urban water supply |

Responsible ADB Officer: Ahsan Tayyab, South Asia Department, Sri Lanka Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 15 December 2014.

Description: The capacity development technical assistance (CDTA) will support the government to improve capacities of EA staff implementing ADB financed projects and enhance the ability of EAs to address the cross cutting issues in achieving on-time readiness and enhanced portfolio performance. The TA is designed to provide direct support for project management and administration to the government staff undertaking ADB funded projects. The TA will support feasibility studies of alternative investment options and enhance capacity of the EA staff in developing and maintaining a project performance monitoring system. Cross-learning will be promoted by encouraging EA and IA staff to share experiences in managing complex contract and safeguard related challenges, among others. This TA will also support periodic portfolio review meetings as these provide a forum to disseminate best practices identified during project preparation and implementation among EAs and IAs and other stakeholders in various sectors.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: There has been improvement in the portfolio performance with an annual average of \$280 million in contract awards and \$307 million in disbursement during the last 4 years. However, some unresolved matters need addressing, including: (i) the lack of project readiness to meet ADB requirements governing procurement, selection of consultants, disbursement, safeguards, and other thematic areas (governance and gender); (ii) the lack of capacity to address complex project implementation challenges when a project needs restructuring; (iii) weak project implementation and management capacity of executing agency staff; (iv) weak project performance monitoring and evaluation capacity of executing agency staff; (v) lack of attention to safeguard monitoring and reporting; (vi) lack of knowledge sharing on best practices and innovations across sectors; and (vii) delays in meeting fiduciary requirements. Therefore, there is a need to systematically address challenges in the Sri Lanka portfolio related to readiness and implementation. This is further emphasized in the midterm review of Strategy 2020, approved on 23 April 2014, which includes streamlining business processes to strengthen ADB's development effectiveness and delivering value for money. The review calls for adoption of realistic project implementation schedules using project readiness filters, and to reduce delays in project implementation and minimize transactions costs for clients. While ADB is streamlining its business processes, it will only achieve its intended objective if, at the same time, the executing agencies and implementing agency are also strengthened, and this will be addressed by the TA.

Impact: Enhanced operational effectiveness of ADB projects in Sri Lanka.

Outcome: Improved Portfolio Performance of Sri Lanka

Outputs:

1. Project Implementation and Management Capacity of EA and IA staff Strengthened
2. Project and Portfolio Monitoring Capacity of the EA, IA and MOFP is Strengthened

3. Improved Project Readiness and Performance

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48374-001

B. Institutional Development of National Water Supply and Drainage Board

TA No. : 8835
Project No. : 48276-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1
Sector : Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services
Subsector : Urban policy, institutional and capacity development

Responsible ADB Officer: Mingyuan Fan, South Asia Department, Urban Development and Water Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 16 December 2014.

Description: The technical assistance (TA) will help National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) to review its institutional structure and propose a more efficient and accountable institutional set-up. It will promote institutional development of the NWSDB, especially in terms of establishing new functions, e.g., regulation, environment and social, and non-revenue water (NRW) management and enhancing and upgrading the existing functions, e.g., planning and design, and Mapping, etc. Specifically, the TA will help NWSDB to develop significant technical skills of staff in planning and designing standards and GIS applications. This will enhance overall efficiency of NWSDB in handling water and sewerage projects designs by in-house staff.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The Government's water sector objective is to increase total population that has access to safe drinking water and sanitation: (i) Safe water coverage: 100% by 2020 (2009 baseline: 85%); (ii) Pipe-borne sewerage coverage: 7.0% by 2020 (2009 baseline: 2.5%). The Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) 2012-2016 will focus on three pillars: (i) inclusive and sustainable economic growth, (ii) catalyzing private investment and enhancing the effectiveness of public investment, and (iii) human resource and knowledge development. The proposed TA is to support NWSDB in: (i) improving the capacity of NWSDB staff to implement and manage water supply and sanitation projects; (ii) improving the quality of water supply and sanitation service operations; and (iii) developing the capacity of staff employed in all relevant divisions of the NWSDB (e.g. Regulatory, Design and Planning, Environment and Social, and NRW, etc.) to implement and manage foreign funded projects.

Impact: Improved operational efficiency and accountability of NWSDB

Outcome: Improved institutional and technical capacity of NWSDB

Outputs:

1. Strengthened institutional structure of NWSDB.
2. Implemented training and skills development program for NWSDB.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48276-001

VIETNAM

A. Strengthening Financial Markets

TA No. : 8793
Project No. : 48213-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.6
Sector : Finance
Subsector : Insurance and contractual savings; money and capital markets

Responsible ADB Officer: Stephen Schuster, Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Impact: Market confidence and transparency improved

Outcome: Financial market infrastructure strengthened

Outputs:

1. Priority upgrades to the prudential framework identified.
2. Support for money market development provided.
3. Efforts to reduce operational risk of bond market transactions initiated.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48213-001

B. Improving Portfolio Performance and Aid Management

TA No. : 8806
Project No. : 48183-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.6
Sector : Public sector management
Subsector : Economic affairs management

Responsible ADB Officer: Nguyen Binh My, Southeast Asia Department, Viet Nam Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 12 December 2014.

Description:

a. Link to Country Partnership Strategy/Regional Cooperation Strategy: A thematic focus of the Country Partnership Strategy for Viet Nam 2012-2015 is governance and capacity development. Improved institutional arrangements and capacity for ODA management will help increase aid effectiveness which, in turn, will contribute to enhancing economic efficiency, which is one of the pillars of the CPS. The proposed TA will replicate and deepen successful activities of the ongoing TA 8034: Support to Improve Portfolio Performance and Aid Effectiveness. The TA will continue the successful EA Training Calendar programs on project management under TA 8034 to meet EA training needs. While Government regulations now officially allow for advance actions, actual implementation of advance actions requires awareness raising and technical support. New Government regulations, project management experiences and lessons learnt (compiled in the Handbook on Processing and Implementing ADB Projects in Viet Nam which is being prepared under TA 8034) will be disseminated to EAs/PMU through training programs under the proposed TA. The proposed TA will address emerging issues, such as minimizing the consequences of shortage of counter-part funds and the need for more focused portfolio reviews.

b. Impact: The impact will be effective aid management by the Government of Viet Nam. The target is that total ODA disbursements to Viet Nam during 2015-2020 will reach \$18 billion.

c. Outcome: The outcome will be improved performance of ADB's portfolio in Viet Nam. By 2017, the loan disbursement ratio will be stabilized at 20 percent or more and the project loan contract awards ratio will increase to 20 percent from 15.6 percent in 2013.

d. Outputs: The TA outputs will be (i) improved capacity for project implementation and supervision; (ii) improved project implementation readiness; (iii) strengthened Government Development Partners coordination for portfolio management; and (iv) institutional reform support for effective ODA management.

- Output 1: Improved capacity for project implementation and supervision. Capacity building activities would result in faster compliance with ADB procedures. They will be built upon, replicate and refine the successful training programs under TA 8034. To support the immediate need for improved contract awards and disbursement performance, annual demand-driven Training Calendars, mainly class-room type training workshops tailored to different groups of participants, will be implemented. Training topics will include, but not limit to, advance actions, project planning, contract management, disbursement and audit, and introduction on portfolio performance indicators. The training programs will use training modules developed under TA 8034. New training modules will be developed to cover emerging portfolio performance areas. Priority will be given to big projects with large packages. The target participants will include not only PMU staff but also staff of EA departments who are responsible for project documents appraisal and who play an important role in accelerating the approval process in the line ministries. Most of the training workshops are home-grown and will be conducted in Vietnamese by VRM staff to facilitate better understanding and interaction. Awareness raising workshops on ADB policies/procedures and the gaps between ADB and Government systems will be conducted for relevant Government oversight bodies, including, among others, the Treasuries and the Inspectorates. Better understanding of ADB procedures by these oversight bodies will enhance PMU confidence in complying with ADB procedures. The outreach beyond PMU staff to officials of line ministries and other government agencies would lead to institutional capacity improvements in the longer-term.
- Output 2: Improved project implementation readiness. Extensive support will be provided to ADB-funded projects in the pipeline to prepare and implement advance actions. It will include reaching out to EA management and appraisal departments to clarify the need and feasibility of advance actions; assisting PMUs in developing advance action implementation schedules to maximize the benefit of advance actions; and reviewing bidding documents/bid evaluation reports of advance procurement packages to improve the quality of those documents before submission to ADB.
- Output 3: Strengthened Government Development Partners coordination for portfolio management. Portfolio performance reviews will be more effective when the ownership of the Government is ensured. The TA will support portfolio reviews including, but not limited to, support the ODA NSC, provincial governments in preparing Issues Papers for joint ADB-ODA NSC/provincial portfolio reviews and joint Government - Six Banks Joint Portfolio Performance Reviews (JPPRs). Mechanisms for tracking counter-part fund allocation and actual provision/disbursement under ADB-funded projects will be explored. Output 4: Institutional reform support for effective ODA management. ADB, individually and jointly with the Six Banks group, will continue to conduct policy dialogue on necessary changes to the legal framework and institutional arrangements. Thematic studies will be conducted to provide inputs to various Government-Development Partners fora including the Viet Nam Development Partnership Forum (VDPF), the Aid Effectiveness Forum, and JPPRs. A study on PMUs, building upon the previous PMU studies of other development partners, will be conducted to provide inputs to a planned MPI circular on PMU professionalization and a planned government-led PMU Certification Program. This would support the development of the legal framework for PMU professionalization, and enhance the sustainability of capacity building efforts and supplement Output 1. Other thematic studies will be identified during TA implementation to best respond to emerging portfolio performance issues.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48183-001

C. Ho Chi Minh City Integrated Public Transport Investment Program

TA No. : 8860
Project No. : 48260-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.6
Sector : Transport
Subsector : Urban public transport

Responsible ADB Officer: Yasushi Tanaka, Southeast Asia Department, Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 18 December 2014.

Description: The Investment Program will support the development of an efficient, integrated and sustainable public transport system for Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) in Viet Nam. It will improve the extent and connectivity between bus systems, proposed Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) network and other modes of public and private transport, and strengthen urban transport policies and regulations in the city. By contributing to the overall public transport system, the investment program will support the objective of the HCMC's Urban Transport Master Plan (HUTMP) to increase the use of public transport and reduce dependency on private vehicles. Investments are expected to include MRT, bus rapid transit (BRT), multimodal interchange, other public transport integration and traffic works and services improvements. Support will be provided for transport planning, institutional and public transport policy reform and capacity development.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48260-001

IV. ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE SECTOR

PHILIPPINES

150-Megawatt Burgos Wind Farm Project

Approval No. : LN7160-01
Project No. : 48325-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 20
Project sponsor : EDC Burgos Wind Power Corporation (EBWPC)
Sector : Energy
Subsector : Renewable energy generation - wind

Responsible ADB Officer: Christine Genalin C. Uy, Private Sector Operations Department
Infrastructure Finance Division 2

Status: ADB Board approved on 26 January 2015.

Description: The Project involves the construction and operation of a 150 MW wind farm project in the province of Ilocos Norte, in the municipality of Burgos. The wind farm will cover an area of approximately 686 hectares across 3 barangays (Saoit, Poblacion and Nagsurot). The Project is developed under the Renewable Energy (RE) Law and therefore entitled to priority connection to the transmission and distribution system, priority purchase and transmission of, and payment for, electricity sold through the Luzon grid. It may be eligible for a fixed tariff under the governments Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) system. The Project will be built in 2 phases. The components of Phase 1 are: (i) the installation of 29 wind turbine generators (WTGs) from Vestas with a generation capacity of 87 MW, (ii) the construction of a wind farm substation; and (iii) the construction of an approximately 42 km long transmission line while Phase 2 consist of the installation of an additional 21 WTGs from Vestas with a generation capacity of 63 MW. Construction for both phases has commenced.

Business opportunities: http://adb.org/projects/details?page=business-opportunities&proj_id=48325-001

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