



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*

Table of Contents

I. PROJECT LIST BY SECTOR	3
II. LOAN	4
CAMBODIA.....	4
Technical and Vocational Education and Training Sector Development Program (formerly Second Strengthening Technical and Vocational Education Project [STVET II]).....	4
LAOS	4
Greater Mekong Subregion Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth Project.....	4
PAKISTAN	5
Trimmu and Panjnad Barrages Improvement Project	5
SRI LANKA	6
Integrated Road Investment Program.....	6
VIETNAM	7
Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City Power Grid Development Sector Project.....	7
III. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	9
CHINA	9
A. Promoting Foreign Investment to Support Agricultural Modernization.....	9
B. Study of Financial Reform in Rural Areas of the Central Plains Economic Zone.....	9
C. Research on Intensive and Economical Land Use Mode in Small and Medium-Sized Cities and Small Towns	10
D. Improving Efficiency in Public Service Procurement, Delivery, and Financing.....	11
GEOGIA.....	12
Strengthening Domestic Resource Mobilization	12
KYRGYZ	12
Second Investment Climate Improvement Program	12
MICRONESIA	13
Strengthening Infrastructure Planning and Implementation	13
MYANMAR.....	13
Support for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Arrangements Development.....	13
MARSHALL ISLANDS	14
Ebeye Water Supply and Sanitation Project.....	14
PHILIPPINES.....	15
Strengthening Treasury Operations and Capital Market Reform	15
REGIONAL	16
A. Strengthening Trade Facilitation in the GMS through Partnerships with the Private Sector	16
B. Strengthening Institutional Knowledge and Capacity of Customs Administrations for Trade Facilitation within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations	16
C. Roundtable Conference: Future Asian Regional Cooperation and Integration Agenda	17
D. Promoting Carbon Capture and Storage in the People's Republic of China and Indonesia	18
E. Geomapping of ADB's Projects	19
F. Trade Facilitation in South Asia	20
G. Pacific Business Investment Facility	21
SOLOMON ISLANDS	22
Strengthening Financial Inclusion	22
UZBEKISTAN	23
E-Government for Effective Public Management.....	23
VANUATU.....	23
Supporting the Preparation of the National Sustainable Development Plan	23
VIETNAM.....	24
Implementation of Civil Service Reform Plan.....	24
IV. GRANT	25
KYRGYZ	25
Strengthening Education System Sector Development Program.....	25
V. ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE SECTOR	26
REGIONAL	26
Spice Value Chain Development	26
VI. IN-COUNTRY EMBASSY AND COMMERCIAL OFFICES	27

I. PROJECT LIST BY SECTOR

Country	Projects	ADB Assistance
AGRICULTURE and NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR		
China	Promoting Foreign Investment to Support Agricultural Modernization	TA
Pakistan	Trimmu and Panjad Barrages Improvement Project	Loan
Regional	Spice Value Chain Development	Assistance to Private sector
EDUCATION SECTOR		
Cambodia	Technical and Vocational Education and Training Sector Development Program (formerly Second Strengthening Technical and Vocational Education Project [STVET III])	Loan
Kyrgyz	Strengthening Education System Sector Development Program	Grant
ENERGY SECTOR		
Regional	Promoting Carbon Capture and Storage in the People's Republic of China and Indonesia	TA
Vietnam	Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City Power Grid Development Sector Project	Loan
ENVIRONMENT SECTOR		
Marshall Islands	Ebeye Water Supply and Sanitation Project	TA
Myanmar	Support for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Arrangements Development	TA
INDUSTRY, FINANCE, and OTHER SECTORS		
China	Improving Efficiency in Public Service Procurement, Delivery, and Financing	TA
China	Research on Intensive and Economical Land Use Mode in Small and Medium-Sized Cities and Small Towns	TA
China	Study of Financial Reform in Rural Areas of the Central Plains Economic Zone	TA
Georgia	Strengthening Domestic Resource Mobilization	TA
Kyrgyz	Second Investment Climate Improvement Program	TA
Laos	Greater Mekong Subregion Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth Project	Loan
Micronesia	Strengthening Infrastructure Planning and Implementation	TA
Philippines	Strengthening Treasury Operations and Capital Market Reform	TA
Regional	Pacific Business Investment Facility	TA
Regional	Trade Facilitation in South Asia	TA
Regional	Roundtable Conference: Future Asian Regional Cooperation and Integration Agenda	TA
Regional	Strengthening Institutional Knowledge and Capacity of Customs Administrations for Trade Facilitation within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations	TA
Regional	Strengthening Trade Facilitation in the GMS through Partnerships with the Private Sector	TA
Solomon Islands	Strengthening Financial Inclusion	TA
Uzbekistan	E-Government for Effective Public Management	TA
Vanuatu	Supporting the Preparation of the National Sustainable Development Plan	TA
Vietnam	Implementation of Civil Service Reform Plan	TA
TRANSPORTATION and COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR		
Regional	Geomapping of ADB's Projects	TA
Sri Lanka	Integrated Road Investment Program	Loan

II. LOAN

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

CAMBODIA

Technical and Vocational Education and Training Sector Development Program (formerly Second Strengthening Technical and Vocational Education Project [STVET II])

Project No. : 46064-002
Amount (US \$ million) : 30
Sector : Education

Responsible ADB Officer: Norman LaRocque (E-mail: nlarocque@adb.org)
Southeast Asia Department, Human and Social Development Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 26 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The key focus of the project is to achieve a market responsive formal Technical and Vocational Education Project (TVET) system through public-private partnerships (PPP) with large enterprises, inclusive of foreign and domestic direct investment.

Impact: Increased employment in key sectors

Outcome: An accessible demand-driven formal TVET system

Outputs:

- Increased access to TVET programs
- Improved quality and relevance of formal TVET system
- Strengthened governance and management of public private partnerships in TVET strategy and delivery

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46064-002/business-opportunities>

LAOS

Greater Mekong Subregion Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth Project

Loan No. : 3156
Project No. : 46293-003
Amount (US \$ million) : 40
Sector : Industry and Trade/ Transport

Responsible ADB Officer: Steven Schipani (E-mail: sschipani@adb.org)
Southeast Asia Department, Thailand Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 8 September 2014.

Impact: Increased tourism employment for men and women living in underdeveloped segments of the GMS Central Corridor

Outcome: Increased tourism receipts in Champassak, Khammouane, Luangprabang, and Oudomxay

Outputs:

- Last-mile tourism access infrastructure improved
- Environmental services in cross-border tourism centers improved
- Institutional capacity to promote inclusive tourism growth strengthened
- Effective project implementation and knowledge management

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46293-003/business-opportunities>

PAKISTAN**Trimmu and Panjnad Barrages Improvement Project**

Loan No. : 3159/3160
Project No. : 47235-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 150
Sector : **Agriculture, natural resources and rural development**

Responsible ADB Officer: Akhtar Ali (E-mail: aali@adb.org)
 Central and West Asia Department
 Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 22 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Irrigated agriculture in Punjab: (i) accounts for 28% of Punjab's gross domestic product (GDP) output; (ii) employs 54% of the labor force; (iii) produces 90% of Punjab's agricultural output; and (iv) uses more than 90% of the water resources. Punjab's agricultural GDP is 66% of the national agricultural GDP. Irrigated agriculture is crucial to generating higher incomes and attaining Punjab's targeted 6% 7% growth rate (3% in 2011-2012). The Punjab Irrigation Department (PID) is responsible for operation and maintenance (O&M), and management of the irrigation system that covers 8.4 million hectares. The PID's infrastructure has an estimated replacement value of \$20 billion. The irrigation infrastructure in Punjab has seriously deteriorated due to aging (much is nearly 100 years old) and deferred maintenance. The estimated cost of the deferred maintenance of the irrigation system is about \$2 billion; the estimated cost to upgrade the system to modern standards is \$3.5 billion. The barrages structural deterioration and increasing water leakage through the gates pose serious risks and unreliable irrigation service delivery to the tail ends of the canals. Farmers have adapted unreliable and inadequate canal water by developing private tube wells. Increasing pumping, declining groundwater depth and saltwater intrusion in the downstream canal areas are causing land degradation, low productivity and high production cost. The Country Partnership Strategy (2009-2013) prioritizes improving the irrigation infrastructure. ADB's agriculture sector evaluation (2006) for Pakistan emphasizes improving water resources and irrigation. The water sector roadmap identifies improving the infrastructure, institutions and agricultural production to drive sustainable agricultural growth. The Medium-Term Development Framework (2007-2012; extended to 2015) estimates an investment requirement of over \$100 million per year for irrigation sector and allocates PKR9.0 billion (\$95 million equivalent) for new irrigation projects. The PID is working with ADB, World Bank and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on the improvement of irrigated agriculture.

Impact: Sustained agricultural production in the command areas of the barrages

Outcome: Safe Trimmu and Panjnad barrages deliver reliable irrigation water supplies to their canals.

Outputs

1. Rehabilitated and upgraded Trimmu barrage
2. Rehabilitated and upgraded Panjnad barrage.
3. Improved capacities of the communities and PID.

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47235-001/business-opportunities>

SRI LANKA

Integrated Road Investment Program

Loan No. : 0086
Project No. : 47273-002
Amount (US \$ million) : 800
Sector : Transport

Responsible ADB Officer: Chen Chen (E-mail: cchen@adb.org)
South Asia Department
Transport and Communications Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 25 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Sri Lanka occupies a strategic position near the main sea trade routes between Asia and Europe, which allowed Colombo to develop as an international port city, and subsequently as a transshipment point for cargo originating in or destined for the Indian subcontinent. The island country consists mostly of flat or rolling coastal plains, with mountains in the south central core. About 85% of Sri Lanka's population (20.3 million in 2012) lives in rural and peri-urban areas. Sri Lanka has experienced strong economic growth following the end of civil conflict in May 2009. Economic growth was 8% in 2010 and 2011; slowed to 6.4% in 2012 due to weak external demand, drought, and floods; and then rebounded to 7.3% in 2013. It is envisaged that an improving external environment, higher investment, and a recovery in domestic consumption will sustain a rapid economic growth during 2014-2015. Sri Lanka's economic expansion has been driven by the industry and services sectors, which account for 89% of gross domestic product, followed by the agriculture sector, which contributed the remaining 11%. As a result of the robust growth, the national poverty headcount ratio fell to just below 9% in 2010 from over 15% in 2006. Nevertheless, less-developed areas did not exhibit consistently higher elasticity of poverty reduction (proportional change in poverty per unit growth in gross domestic product per capita). The poor transport infrastructure, in particular the provincial and local authority roads, has hindered the spread of economic activities and access to basic social resources.

Impact: Improved connectivity between rural communities and socioeconomic centers in Sri Lanka

Outcome: Increased transport efficiency on project roads

Outputs:

- Improved road conditions between the selected rural communities and socioeconomic centers
- Enhanced capacity of road agencies

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47273-002/business-opportunities>

VIETNAM

Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City Power Grid Development Sector Project

Loan No. : 3161/ 8286
Project No. : 46391-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 172.7
Sector : Energy

Responsible ADB Officer: Takafumi Kadono (E-mail: tkadono@adb.org)
Southeast Asia Department, Energy Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 23 September 2014.

Socioeconomic Context and Sector Performance: Viet Nam's economy grew at an average rate of 6.3% per annum and gross domestic product per capita increased from \$699 to \$1,755 during 2005-2012. Economic growth was accompanied by an average electricity demand growth of 12.5% per annum during 2005-2012, while per capita consumption increased from 156 kWh in 1995 to 1,187 kWh in 2012. Viet Nam has also made notable achievements in increasing the household electrification rate from 50% in 1995 to over 97% by 2012, while reducing the poverty rate from 15.5% in 2006 to 11.1% in 2012.

Institutional Arrangement: The Ministry of Industry and Trade has policy and supervisory responsibilities for the energy sector, both as the line ministry and as the ministry with oversight responsibility for the state-owned energy enterprises. Vietnam Electricity (EVN), the main power utility in Viet Nam, is organized as a holding company with a series of wholly owned subsidiaries including the three Power Generation Corporations, the National Power Transmission Corporation responsible for the 500 kV and 220 kV transmission system, and the five Power Corporations responsible for the distribution and retail of electricity at voltage levels below 110 kV but also developing and operating 220 kV assets in their respective licensed areas. Hanoi Power Corporation (EVN HANOI) and Ho Chi Minh City Power Corporation (EVN HCMC), in particular, are the Power Corporations responsible for the largest load centers. Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City account for 16% of the total population.

Sector Challenges and Opportunities Technical: Expanding the power system capacity in a sustainable manner to meet the rapidly growing electricity demand is a key priority of the government. According to the National Power Development Plan between 2011 and 2020 with Orientation Towards 2030 (PDP7), demand is expected to continue growing rapidly from 120 TWh in 2012 to 330 TWh in 2020 and potentially up to 700 TWh in 2030. To meet the growing demand, generation capacity is to be strengthened from 26.5 GW in 2012 to 75 GW in 2020. Nearly 44,000 km of 500 kV and 75,000 km of 220 kV lines will also be constructed to effectively transmit the generated power to the load centers. Total investment for the power sector up to 2020 is estimated to be \$48.8 billion, of which \$16.3 billion is for grid augmentation. In the distribution subsector, particularly in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City, their combined peak load of over 6.1 GW in 2012 or 23% of the total domestic load, is expected to nearly double to 11.2 GW by 2020. The investment needs up to 2015 for EVN HANOI and EVN HCMC are \$987 million and \$997 million, respectively.

Financial: The foremost challenge of the power utilities is to mobilize the vast financing needed to meet the above investment requirements while maintaining their financial sustainability. Although there are some non-EVN domestic and foreign investments in power generation, a large share of EVN's investments are financed by loans from commercial banks and development partners. The external borrowings of EVN HANOI and EVN HCMC are projected to be about \$130 million and \$80 million, respectively, per year on average during 2014-2015. The retail tariff schedules are set by the government uniformly across the whole country. While the average retail tariff has increased by 79% in nominal terms during 2007-2013, it has decreased by 15% in real terms. Moreover, the current average retail tariff of about D1,500/kWh (?7.14/kWh) is much lower than the long-run marginal cost estimated to be in the

range of 8-9/kWh. Adequate and gradual tariff increase is required to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the power sector.

Power Sector Reform and Modernization: Viet Nam's sector reform program process dates back to 1995, while ADB has supported the reform through six technical assistances between 1995 and 2009. The 2004 Electricity Law provided the legal basis for the ongoing reform being implemented in accordance with the roadmap for establishing an electricity market in three phases: (i) Phase 1 competitive generation market until 2014; (ii) Phase 2 pilot competitive wholesale market from 2015, and full implementation from 2017; and (iii) Phase 3 competitive retail market from 2021. Phase 1 was launched in July 2012 with the legal unbundling of the three Power Generation Corporations. The Electricity Regulatory Authority of Viet Nam (ERAV) is currently preparing Phase 2 with the support of development partners, whereas ADB will dispatch resident advisors to assist ERAV through an existing technical assistance. Further technical assistances to prepare ERAV and the market participants are also being discussed and coordinated with the development partners. The government aims to reduce its energy intensity and increase reliability of power supply through system modernization and removal of constraints in the power grid. Viet Nam's elasticity ratio of electricity demand growth rate against gross domestic product growth rate has averaged around 2.0. PDP7 calls for reducing it to 1.5 by 2015 and to 1.0 by 2020. EVN has made a steady reduction of system losses from 12.2% in 2003 to 9.2% in 2012. At the distribution level, EVN HANOI targets reducing its losses from 7.1% in 2012 to 6.0% by 2020, while EVN HCMC plans to reduce it from 5.6% in 2012 to 5.0% in 2020. To further improve system reliability, both Power Corporations target reducing their respective system average interruption duration indexes by 30-40% by 2014 compared to 2012 levels. The present indexes are very high compared to developed country utility standards, due to antiquated equipment and inadequate capacities of the networks, causing overloading and short-circuit.

Impact: Growth in national electricity demand is met in a sustainable manner

Outcome: Improved reliability and efficiency of electricity supply in Ha Noi and HCMC

Outputs:

- Four core substation and transmission line subprojects in Ha Noi developed and/or rehabilitated
- Four core substation and transmission line subprojects in HCMC developed and/or rehabilitated
- Up to 20 noncore substation and transmission line subprojects in Ha Noi developed and/or rehabilitated
- Up to nine noncore substation and transmission line subprojects in HCMC developed and/or rehabilitated

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46391-001/business-opportunities>

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.

CHINA

A. Promoting Foreign Investment to Support Agricultural Modernization

TA No. : 8711
Project No. : 47072-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.4
Sector : Agriculture, natural resources and rural development

Responsible ADB Officer: Yi Jiang (E-mail: yijiang@adb.org)
East Asia Department
Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division,

Status: ADB Board approved on 28 August 2014.

Impact: Modernization of the agricultural sector of the PRC

Outcome: Promotion of foreign investment in the agriculture sector and market development of the China

Outputs

- A study report on the status of foreign investment in the agriculture sector in the PRC
- A study report on the demand for agricultural foreign investment and opportunities for the domestic enterprises to learn from and collaborate with the foreign ones
- A policy note on promoting agricultural foreign investment and market development

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47072-001/business-opportunities>

B. Study of Financial Reform in Rural Areas of the Central Plains Economic Zone

TA No. : 8722
Project No. : 48009-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.4
Sector : Finance

Responsible ADB Officer: Hiroko Uchimura-Shiroishi
East Asia Department
Public Management Financial Sector and Regional Coop Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 18 September 2014.

Impact: More effective and sustainable rural financial services provided in the Central Plains Economic Zone (CPEZ)

Outcome: Improved policy with actionable road map for the establishment of rural financial system in the CPEZ

Outputs

1. Comprehensive report on rural financial system in the CPEZ completed.
2. Policy recommendation and roadmap on financial reform in rural areas of the CPEZ formulated and presented

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48009-001/business-opportunities>

C. Research on Intensive and Economical Land Use Mode in Small and Medium-Sized Cities and Small Towns

TA No.	:	8720
Project No.	:	47371-001
Amount (US \$ million)	:	0.3
Sector	:	Finance/ Public Sector Management

Responsible ADB Officer: Hinako Maruyama
 East Asia Department
 Urban and Social Sectors Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 22 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Urbanization in the People's Republic of China (PRC) progresses at an unprecedented rate along with a serious problem of urban sprawl. During 2006 -2010, the urban sprawl speed in small and medium-sized cities was twice faster than during 2001 - 2005. Local governments gain revenue from land-use-right transfers. In some developed areas, about half to two-thirds of a city's fiscal income comes from land transfer, and this percentage is even higher in some inland cities. In addition, lack of effective management and supervision causes serious problems of unreasonable land use structure. Land use intensity in urban built-up areas in the PRC is quite low. The average floor area ratio in cities is only about 0.3. More than 40% of land is used inefficiently, and 5% are idle. Particularly, industrial land use in small and medium-sized cities and small towns is inefficient and lack proper guidance. As a result, industrial land is dispersed and the output per unit of land is low. In recent years, the central government has been taking measures to encourage the efficient use of land. In 2004, the PRC State Council issued Decree No. 28 to strengthen reform and land management, requesting governments to establish a mechanism for intensive and economical land use and benefit sharing. In 2012, MLR issued Document No. 47 to facilitate the establishment of a mechanism on intensive and economical land use. Subsequently, MLR and the National Development and Reform Commission updated the restricted and prohibited inventories of land use and MLR issued Decree No. 53 on measures to manage abandoned land. Despite such efforts, improving land use efficiency is still challenging. MLR issued Order No. 61 in May 2014 on the new Regulation on Intensive and Economical Land Use, which will be effective in September 2014. However, the regulation is too general and lacks practical policy, methods, and implementation guidelines. Thus, a recommendation is urgently needed to provide practical policy and implementation guidelines to promote intensive and economical land use. Through its national strategies, the PRC is promoting urbanization and balanced urban -rural integration. Land use is one of the fundamental issues that relates to urbanization and urban rural integration, as well as various challenges including household registration, social security for farmers, rural to urban migration, environmental protection, food security, agricultural modernization, local economic growth, local government finance, and industrial transformation and relocation. One of the strategic pillars of the country partnership strategy of the Asian Development Bank, 2011 -2015 for the PRC is inclusive growth to foster balanced and equitable development by promoting integrated rural and urban development by expanding livelihood opportunities for the poor. The country partnership strategy also supports to

strengthen protection and sustainable use of land. Land reform is one of the urgent priorities of the PRC and the TA will support improvement and implementation of land policies.

Impact: Better knowledge and stronger policies adopted for intensive and economical land use in small and medium-sized cities and small towns

Outcome: Recommendations available for policy and implementation guidelines to improve land use conditions in small and medium-sized cities and small towns

Outputs:

- A research report on intensive and economical land use mode for small and medium-sized cities and small towns
- Policy suggestions for intensive and economical use of land in selected small and medium-sized cities and small towns

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47371-001/business-opportunities>

D. Improving Efficiency in Public Service Procurement, Delivery, and Financing

Project No. : 48006-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.8
Sector : Public Sector Management

Responsible ADB Officer: Hiroko Uchimura-Shiroishi
East Asia Department
Public Management, Financial Sector and Regional Coop Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 26 September 2014.

Impact: Improved efficiency in public service procurement, financing, and delivery

Outcome: Improved policy and institutional frameworks for efficient public service procurement, delivery, and financing.

Outputs

1. A general operation guideline (knowledge product) on engaging private sector in public service provision produced
2. Study on PRC preconditions for private sector engagement in old-age and health care services produced
3. Capacity of relevant officials to public service provision in engaging private sector improved
4. Road map to develop property tax (knowledge product) produced
5. Study on expanding tax base and establishing valuation system produced
6. Capacity of relevant officials to property tax in design and administration of property tax increased
7. Study on current design and efficiency of dibao system produced
8. Study on coordination between urban and rural dibao system produced
9. Policy recommendations for improving efficiency and effectiveness of dibao system produced
10. Capacity of relevant officials to dibao system in reforming the design of dibao system improved

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48006-001/business-opportunities>

GEOGIA

Strengthening Domestic Resource Mobilization

TA No. : 8716
Project No. : 48044-003
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.5
Sector : Finance/ Public Sector Management

Responsible ADB Officer: Tariq H. Niazi (E-mail: tniazi@adb.org)
Central and West Asia Department
Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 11 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The project addresses issues relating to domestic resource mobilization, leveraging private sector resources and better managing fiscal risks. Reforms in these areas leading to more stable legal, institutional and regulatory environment in the areas of capital markets, pension reforms, public private partnerships and debt management will facilitate economic growth and maintain fiscal space.

Impact: Increased availability of domestic resources for effective public and private investment

Outcome: Strengthened institutional and regulatory framework for domestic resource mobilization

Outputs:

- Capital market master plan finalized
- Pensions reform strategy developed
- Legal and institutional framework for PPP strengthened
- Public debt management improved

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48044-003/business-opportunities>

KYRGYZ

Second Investment Climate Improvement Program

TA No. : 8721
Project No. : 41544-086
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.6
Sector : Finance

Responsible ADB Officer: Priyanka Sood (E-mail: psood@adb.org)
Central and West Asia Department
Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 23 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Progress has been made in improving the investment climate, but substantial work is needed to increase the role of the formal private sector in economic growth. Constraining factors include lack of transparency and corruption; weak institutional frameworks and capacity to implement reforms; lack of access to affordable and long-term finance, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); deteriorating infrastructure; dwindling productive skills and skills mismatch with industry requirements; and weak coordination for investment

promotion, and export product and market diversification. Project preparatory technical assistance (TA) is required to assist the government in designing and implementing reforms for financial deepening, access to finance, and trade and investment to increase the role of the formal private sector in the economic development of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/41544-086/business-opportunities>

MICRONESIA

Strengthening Infrastructure Planning and Implementation

TA No. : 7927
 Project No. : 44471-012
 Executing agency : Asian Development Bank
 Amount (US \$ million) : 0.55
 Sector : Energy, ICT, Public Sector Management, Water Supply and Other Municipal Infrastructure and Services

Responsible ADB Officer: Stephen Blaik (E-mail: sblaik@adb.org)
 Pacific Department
 Urban, Social Development & Public Management Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 16 September 2014.

Impact: States receive adequate support to execute infrastructure projects

Outcome: DTCI has improved capacity to plan and oversee execution of infrastructure projects

Outputs:

- Systems and procedures for project planning, design and management are agreed upon between DTCI and state utilities.
- DTCI staff resources have the knowledge and skills in selected areas to plan, design, and oversee program execution.

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/44471-012/business-opportunities>

MYANMAR

Support for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Arrangements Development

TA No. : 8705
 Project No. : 48291-001
 Amount (US \$ million) : 0.23
 Sector : Industry and Trade

Responsible ADB Officer: Lingling Ding (E-mail: dingl@adb.org)
 Southeast Asia Department
 Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 25 August 2014.

Impact: Enhanced readiness of key SPS agencies in Myanmar to improve SPS management

Outcome: SPS agencies gaining better understanding of SPS issues

Outputs: Comprehensive assessment of SPS Capacity completed

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48291-001/details>

MARSHALL ISLANDS

Ebeye Water Supply and Sanitation Project

TA No. : 8306
Project No. : 46346-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.37
Sector : Water supply and other municipal infrastructure and services

Responsible ADB Officer: Stephen Blaik (E-mail: sblaik@adb.org)
Pacific Department
Urban, Social Development & Public Management Division, PARD

Status: ADB Board approved on 21 August 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The project will address factors which result in the high incidence of waterborne disease on Ebeye, an island within Kwajalein Atoll. Ebeye has an area of approximately 31 hectares and a population of more than 9,600, (population density is about 31,000 persons per km²). The project will improve access to safe water and sanitation and promote behavioral change to improve hygiene standards.

High incidence of waterborne disease: Ebeye has a high incidence of waterborne disease. The number of cases of waterborne disease, primarily gastroenteritis, recorded by Ebeye Hospital since 2001 averages 1,182 cases per year. The high incidence of waterborne disease is attributed to: (i) limited access to safe water; (ii) ineffective hygiene behaviors, particularly among children; and (iii) a dilapidated sanitation system.

Limited sources of fresh water: The primary sources of potable water for households on Ebeye are the public fresh water supply (84%) provided by the Kwajalein Atoll Joint Utilities Resources (KAJUR) Inc.; household rainwater tanks (15%); and bottled water (1%). Sources of potable water are household rainwater harvesting and a reverse osmosis desalination (RO) plant operated by KAJUR. Groundwater reserves are minimal and there are no freshwater streams. The Ebeye RO plant, commissioned in 2001, uses outdated RO technology and is energy inefficient and requires about 3 times more energy to produce the equivalent volume of potable water than modern RO plants. Currently, the RO plant produces 110,000 gallons potentially providing 11.4 gallons (44 liters) per day to every person. However, the potable water available from fresh water supply system is substantially less due to leakage from the fresh water supply network and uncontrolled overflows from water reservoirs. Rainwater harvesting is being increasingly utilized by households to increase access to potable water but is not secure due to seasonal rainfall patterns and more frequent droughts. In drought years water stored in rainwater tanks is rapidly consumed and rainwater tanks may remain un-replenished for long periods. However, climate projections for the Marshall Islands indicate higher air and sea temperatures and higher rainfall and rainwater harvesting will become an increasingly important supplementary household freshwater.

Need to enhance awareness on hygiene and water related issues: Public awareness and education on water related issues is low and awareness and education activities and outreach are limited. A long-duration hygiene and water awareness campaign is needed to foster sustained behavioral change required for improved hygiene and reduced incidence of waterborne diseases. Campaigns need to focus on children, which comprise 45% of Ebeye's population, through programs delivered in school and to women's groups.

Dilapidated sewer system: The Ebeye saltwater sewerage system has progressively failed due to lack of maintenance since its commissioning in 1967. Salt water for the operation of the sewer system is sourced from deep wells and is pumped through a dedicated saltwater reticulation network to most areas on Ebeye. Pressure in the saltwater reticulation mains is very low and is insufficient for operation of fire hydrants. The sewage treatment plant has not operated since 2001 and untreated sewage is discharged into the lagoon. The sewage pump stations have limited pumping capacity and frequently fail and there is significant infiltration of seawater into the sewers. The high seawater infiltration and pump failures often result in sewage overflows from manholes and pump stations into the streets. Overflows from the sewerage network and discharge of raw sewage to the lagoon present a serious health hazard. Water quality testing by the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) indicates that the marine water quality at several locations on Ebeye's lagoon foreshore does not meet EPA standards due to sewage contamination.

Unsustainable water and sewerage services: Over the past 6 fiscal years, KAJUR has recorded operating losses of \$2 million or more. Electricity services account for about 88% of KAJUR's operating revenue. Water supply and sewerage services are provided by KAJUR free of charge. KAJUR has financed the gap between expenditure and operating revenues through grants from the United States. KAJUR has developed a reform strategy to improve its financial sustainability through improved operational efficiency and increased revenues. The reform strategy includes plans to install consumer meters and the introduction of volumetric-based charges for water supply and sewerage services. However, tariff policies have yet to be developed. Asset planning and improved management is essential for KAJUR to become financially and technically sustainable.

The project is consistent with Marshall Islands' strategic development strategy, Vision 2018, for improved hygiene and sanitation and reliable and affordable water and sanitation infrastructure. The project is included in RMI Country Operations Business Plan 2013 - 2015 which includes a strategic focus of infrastructure development. The project is aligned with: (i) ADB's Strategy 2020 to contribute to improved public health through water and sanitation investments; (ii) ADB's Approach to Assisting the Pacific (2010-2014) to improve the supply and delivery of water and sanitation services; and (iii) ADB's Water Policy and Water Operational Plan, 2011 - 2020 to increase efficiency and productivity in the delivery of water services and increase investments in sanitation and wastewater management.

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46346-001/business-opportunities>

PHILIPPINES

Strengthening Treasury Operations and Capital Market Reform

TA No. : 8718
Project No. : 48140-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Finance

Responsible ADB Officer: Stephen Schuster (E-mail: sschuster@adb.org)
 Southeast Asia Department
 Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 17 September 2014.

Impact: More cost effective utilization of BTr's fiscal resources.

Outcome: Efficiency of the primary and secondary government debt markets enhanced.

Outputs:

- BTr's debt and cash management functions enhanced.
- Primary dealer system strengthened.
- Development of capital market enhanced.

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48140-001/business-opportunities>

REGIONAL

A. Strengthening Trade Facilitation in the GMS through Partnerships with the Private Sector

TA No. : 8707
Project No. : 46191-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Industry and Trade

Responsible ADB Officer: Nguyen Ba Hung (E-mail: bhnguyen@adb.org)
 Southeast Asia Department
 Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 22 August 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The objective of the R-PATA is to promote greater dialogue and partnership between Customs administrations and the trade-related private sector in the 5 GMS countries in order to identify and remove constraints to cross border trade. More efficient trading of goods across GMS border crossings will contribute to economic corridor development.

Impact: Partnerships are forged between customs administrations and the trade-related private sector, thereby facilitating the cross-border movement of goods along economic corridors.

Outcome: Established or strengthened schemes and measures for customs administrations to better coordinate with the private sector for more effective trade facilitation

Outputs: Trade facilitation constraints and solutions are identified via surveys of the trade-related private sector. Capacity and procedures of customs administrations improved to enable more effective partnership and engagement with the trade-related private sector

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46191-001/business-opportunities>

B. Strengthening Institutional Knowledge and Capacity of Customs Administrations for Trade Facilitation within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

TA No. : 8709
Project No. : 46192-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Industry and Trade

Responsible ADB Officer: Kanya S. Sasradipoera (E-mail: kanyass@adb.org)
 Southeast Asia Department
 Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 22 August 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The objective of the regional-policy advisory technical assistance (R-PATA) is to strengthen the institutional capacity of Customs administration in the

Region to facilitate the free flow of goods and to increase intra/extra-regional trade. Freer flow of goods from improved Customs policies, procedures, regulations, and operations is expected to contribute to the realization of AEC as a single market and production base. The R-PATA will complement existing TAs and contribute to relevant stakeholders and partners in Southeast Asia with a regional platform to share knowledge and experiences on trade facilitation so that more relevant, effective and efficient solutions for trade facilitation can be found.

Impact: Trade facilitation by customs administrations in participating countries is enhanced in accordance with various ASEAN agreements, thus contributing to the realization of AEC.

Outcome: Customs administrations implement procedures, regulations and management measures to facilitate the cross-border movement of goods

Outputs:

- Knowledge gaps and other constraints for customs to facilitate trade are assessed
- Work plans for customs to facilitate trade at border crossings developed
- Capacity of customs to implement trade facilitation work plans improved

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46192-001/business-opportunities>

C. Roundtable Conference: Future Asian Regional Cooperation and Integration Agenda

TA No.	:	8704
Project No.	:	48130-001
Amount (US \$ million)	:	1
Sector	:	Finance/ Industry and Trade/ Public Sector Management

Responsible ADB Officer: Xinglan Hu (E-mail: xinglanhu@adb.org)
Office of Regional Economic Integration

Status: ADB Board approved on 25 August 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: In 2014, after almost a decade has passed since the approval of the RCI strategy and more than 5 years since the adoption of ADB's Strategy 2020, the region is faced with a rapidly changing global economic environment characterized by the tapering of the United States quantitative easing, the threatening rise in global interest rates, volatile foreign direct investment flows as a result of advanced economies recovery, the economic slowdown of the People's Republic of China (PRC), and the changing role of Japan's production networks. This has repercussions on the region by making the environment for traditional Factory Asia exports more difficult and potentially hurting traditional intermediate goods trade in Asia. To further analyze the changing global economic trends in the context of ADB's efforts to implement its Strategy 2020, ADB has conducted a midterm review of the strategy. Included in the findings of the midterm review is the need to focus attention on the path that RCI has to take on structural reforms, over and above national efforts, to counter slowing productivity growth, reduce inequality, and mitigate vulnerability risks in the region. Given the complexities of the productivity, inequality, and vulnerability issues in the context of RCI, as discussed in the midterm review, special attention must be given to each issue on a sequential basis rather than to all three at once. The focus for 2014 will be on productivity. Two other RCI drivers - inequalities and vulnerabilities - would be addressed in 2015 and 2016, respectively. This TA aims to implement the part of the recommendations of ADB's midterm review on second generation RCI that focuses on the recent slowdown in productivity growth globally and regionally with its scope narrowed down to pillar 2 of the RCI strategy (trade and investment). Through knowledge and understanding of the key issues surrounding the next phase of the RCI strategy for trade and investment and, subsequently, applying this within the context of the developing member countries (DMCs), the TA will help strengthen ADB's role as a catalyst and coordinator of RCI for DMCs.

Impact: Second-generation RCI policies and recommendations (trade- and productivity-driven growth) implemented in ADB DMCs

Outcome: Second-generation RCI agenda (focused on trade- and investment-driven productivity) supported by DMCs and other stakeholders

Outputs:

1. Analytical studies on the following topics conducted: a. Special economic zones and production networks; b. Small and medium-sized enterprises and production networks; c. Trade facilitation and trade agreements; d. Trade and supply chain financing; e. Trade logistics; f. Regional institutions and financing mechanisms

2. Knowledge events highlighting the second-generation RCI agenda focused on enhancing productivity through trade and investment cooperation and integration conducted

3. Knowledge products presenting the second-generation RCI agenda published and disseminated

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48130-001/business-opportunities>

D. Promoting Carbon Capture and Storage in the People's Republic of China and Indonesia

TA No. : 8714
Project No. : 48282-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.8
Sector : Energy

Responsible ADB Officer: Aiming Zhou (E-mail: azhou@adb.org)
Regional and Sustainable Development Department

Status: ADB Board approved on 29 August 2014.

Impact: Reduced CO₂ intensity and increased deployment of carbon capture and storage technology in the People's Republic of China and Indonesia

Outcome: Well-established institutional capacity for CCS research and capacity development in areas of technology innovation, policy development and formulation, and financial mechanisms

Outputs:

1. Improved R&D activity on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) in PRC and INO, with three CCS Centers of Excellence established.
2. Increased knowledge sharing through conferences, workshops, dialogues, study visits and other forms of regional cooperation;
3. New collaborative partnerships built with centers in and outside the region
4. Foster leadership in capacity development, including government policy and regulatory system establishment for CCS.

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48282-001/business-opportunities>

E. Geomapping of ADB's Projects

TA No. : 8713
Project No. : 47184-003
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.23
Sector : ICT

Responsible ADB Officer: Dong-Ick Kim
Strategy and Policy Department
Operations Planning and Coordination Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 1 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Transparency has been a priority for ADB. It adopted the Public Communications Policy 2011 and actively participates in the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). Emphasis on transparency has been renewed by the Midterm Review of Strategy 2020. It especially states that ADB will support greater use of information and communication technology for more transparent and innovative development solutions, greater efficiency in project implementation, and improved development outcomes. Motivated by technological innovations and rising expectations regarding aid effectiveness, development institutions have been exploring innovative ways to present data, such as geo-mapping, to better inform and communicate with their stakeholders. In particular, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the African Development Bank have already published their geo-mapping tools on their websites. ADB needs to align with its comparators in this respect.

During the Asian Development Fund (ADF) XI negotiations concluded in April 2012, ADF donors called for strengthening ADB's capacity to share aid information with stakeholders by assessing the World Bank's experience with Mapping for Results. Also, at a meeting in March 2014, ADB's Board of Directors expressed interest in maps for better understanding of ADB's projects. The proposed geo-mapping exercise will enable ADB to respond to the calls. A mapping platform will allow ADB to fully take advantage of the technical innovations and the project location information produced through geocoding. The application will provide the visitors to ADB's website with a user-friendly tool that enables easy navigation to project information. It has the potential to serve as a planning and results-monitoring tool for decision makers by providing the geographical distribution of development projects. The tool can also facilitate coordination within ADB and with other development partners in seeking synergies and avoiding potential duplication of activities. In addition, by providing localized information, the tool will empower citizens including the direct beneficiaries to monitor and verify the effectiveness of projects of their immediate interest, which would help improve accountability of ADB and the governments of its developing member countries.

Impact: Improved ability of ADB to work effectively with DMCs and other development partners

Outcome: Enhanced transparency and access to ADB's operational data by ADB's stakeholders and the public

Outputs: Geographic location of ADB's projects displayed on a mapping platform through ADB website
ADB projects approved in April - September 2014 geocoded

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47184-003/business-opportunities>

F. Trade Facilitation in South Asia

TA No. : 8435
Project No. : 47016-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.53
Sector : Industry and Trade

Responsible ADB Officer: Ronald Antonio Q. Butiong (E-mail: rabutiong@adb.org)
South Asia Department
Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division

Status: ADB Board approved 5 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: South Asia is among the least economically integrated regions in the world. Only 5.4% of South Asia's trade is intraregional, compared with over 26% in Southeast Asia and 51% in East Asia. Despite progress made since 2005 in facilitating inland and cross-border trade (e.g., time for export was reduced from 35 days in 2007 to 32 days in 2011), key impediments remain, such as: (i) large number of documents for border clearance; (ii) lack of streamlined customs and other border procedures; (iii) lack of efficient and modern customs facilities; (iv) lack of harmonized processes across countries; (v) high inspection levels at borders; (vi) needs for multiple transshipments due to limited transit rights; (vii) lack of mutual recognition of product testing certification; (viii) high uncertainty and costs for cargo clearances; (ix) need for well-coordinated institutional arrangements for transport and trade facilitation at both national and regional levels, and more. Consequently, border crossings in South Asia are among the most congested in the world. It takes 32.4 days to export from South Asia, compared with 23.1 from East Asia and the Pacific. Trade facilitation is a key to addressing major nonphysical impediments to cross-border movement of goods and people across the South Asia region. It is needed to maximize the benefits of regional transport infrastructure being put in place along priority connectivity corridors in the region. This TA will focus on improving Customs cooperation in the countries of the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Program, which is carrying out, in varying degrees, reforms to modernize customs management and administration. It will also help build capacity in customs reforms and modernization in Maldives and Sri Lanka. The TA will provide support in the implementation of the SASEC subregional trade facilitation program loans/grant to Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal approved in November 2012. The program loans/grant intend to increase trade, including intraregional trade, of SASEC countries by reducing or removing non-tariff barriers (NTBs), specifically institutional, administrative, and technical barriers to trade in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. The TA would support the implementation of the program loans through the facilitation of dialogue and information exchange among SASEC countries on modern customs administration along: (i) modern and effective customs administration and/or management; and (ii) streamlined and transparent trade processes and procedures. Inefficient customs administrative procedures are considered a major NTB in South Asia. This TA will build on an ongoing subproject on capacity building for SASEC trade facilitation (TF), being funded by the Australian Agency for International Development, and complement the planned national TAs to Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal to support their respective participation in SASEC trade facilitation activities. Increased coordination within and between SASEC countries and other South Asian countries is needed to ensure that existing and planned trade facilitation activities will be in line with the strategic priorities of the RCS. This will require the strengthening of capacities on trade facilitation in the participating countries, and a framework for regular consultations and dialogue at the subregional level to plan and coordinate activities as well as to monitor progress.

Impact: More efficient, transparent, secure and service-oriented processing of cross border trade in South Asia

Outcome: Modern and effective Customs administration and management in participating countries

Outcome: Agreement reached on a work plan for 2014-2015 for the SASEC customs subgroup in customs modernization and harmonization, which is in line with the SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework endorsed by all member countries in March 2014.

Outputs: Enhanced cooperation between and among Customs agencies in South Asia An interface framework for customs administration systems in SASEC countries identified

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47016-001/business-opportunities>

G. Pacific Business Investment Facility

Project No. : 47373-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.5
Sector : Finance/ Industry and Trade

Responsible ADB Officer: Sabine Spohn (E-mail: sspohn@adb.org)
 Pacific Department, Pacific Liaison and Coordination Office

Status: ADB Board approved on 26 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: Pacific island countries face significant and complex development challenges that constrain private sector growth. Challenges include the high cost of doing business, inadequate infrastructure, outdated legal systems, and land rights issues. The financial sector is underdeveloped, with a low ratio of private sector credit to gross domestic product. Businesses of all sizes have difficulty in securing commercial finance in the Pacific. Small- and medium-sized businesses are particularly affected, with commercial banks in the region extending very little credit to this segment. Opportunities for businesses to raise additional capital through stock exchanges are very limited. There are no private equity funds in the region, with no near-term prospects for new funds. Since 2010, the Pacific Islands Forum Economic Ministers have called annually on development partners to assist to increase access to finance for small- and medium-sized businesses. In 2013 ADB reviewed (i) private equity funds and other finance facilities in the Pacific, (ii) the financial sector and supply of business advisory services by country, (iii) the experience of hybrid risk finance and business advisory support facilities in other regions, and (iv) potential models for the Pacific region. The review found that, to ease the financing constraint faced by businesses, government and development partner efforts should focus on unlocking the excess liquidity that commercial financiers have in almost all Pacific island countries. While commercial banks report an interest to increase lending to small- and medium-sized businesses, they remain hesitant. Their credit policies and products favor larger clients and short-term investments. The banks are highly risk averse, and report concerns over businesses having weak internal management capacity (including limited financial management skills), and insufficient shareholder capital and acceptable collateral. Proposals put to banks by small- and medium-sized businesses generally lack the rigor required from a business and financial plan. As a result, credit is often unavailable or unaffordable for businesses at offered terms. Business advisory services are needed to reduce financier concerns about businesses internal capacities. While these services are available in the larger Pacific island countries, their focus is on large, predominantly foreign-owned enterprises. In contrast, business development centers, where they exist, are financed by development partners to cater for microenterprises and informal sector operators. This leaves small- and medium-sized businesses unserved. Building the managerial and technical capacity of these entrepreneurs is critical to improve the business risk profile with financiers. Further, in the underdeveloped Pacific financial markets, innovative financing arrangements, such as concessional risk finance, are required to leverage and supplement commercial finance. These measures facilitate access to finance for small- and medium-sized businesses for expansion and diversification, and would absorb excess bank liquidity. They would complement ongoing private sector development and financial sector reforms, including secured transactions reforms, which will increase access to finance by businesses over time, but will not alone bridge the financing gap. Business financing and development programs have been implemented in the

Pacific and other regions by bilateral development partners, development finance institutions and private fund management companies for many years. Lessons drawn from these programs include: (i) managerial and technical advice to businesses, pre- and post-finance, is critical for leveraging commercial finance; (ii) businesses must contribute to the cost of advisory services to ensure buy-in, and must see the advice provided as independent, objective, and confidential; (iii) extensive collaboration with commercial financiers and other stakeholders is key for impact and to lower implementation cost; (iv) businesses typically demand less than \$300,000 in risk finance, which finance facilities with a commercial mandate have been unable to respond to effectively; (v) where finance is provided, self-liquidating instruments are preferred to prevent exit issues; (vi) expansion of existing businesses is less risky and more likely to succeed than establishment of greenfield ventures; (vii) maintaining an in-country advisory presence in many countries is not cost-effective; and (viii) building in-country advisory capacity is usually not sustainable in the Pacific without continued donor support due to small market size.

Impact: Sustainable growth of the private sector in selected Pacific island countries

Outcome: Selected SMEs in Pacific island countries are commercially successful and sustainable

Outputs:

1. Business advisory services are provided to SMEs in selected Pacific island countries
2. Selected SMEs receive concessional loans from the Pacific Business Investment Trust Fund in parallel with commercial finance
3. Project management services are effectively delivered

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47373-001/business-opportunities>

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Strengthening Financial Inclusion

Project No. : 46508-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.6
Sector : Finance

Responsible ADB Officer: Sabine Spohn (E-mail: sspohn@adb.org)
Pacific Department
Pacific Liaison and Coordination Office in Sydney, Australia

Status: ADB Board approved on 23 September 2014.

Impact: Smallholder farmers in two provinces actively participate in the cash economy.

Outcome: Selected smallholder farmers in two provinces use financial services.

Outputs:

- Selected Smallholder farmers in two provinces have improved knowledge on financial issues,
- Selected smallholder farmers, including coconut value chain stakeholders, are provided with adequate financial services
- Consumer interests in branchless banking models are safeguarded.

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46508-001/business-opportunities>

UZBEKISTAN

E-Government for Effective Public Management

TA No. : 8260
Project No. : 46444-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 1.1
Sector : ICT/ Public sector management

Responsible ADB Officer: Asadullah Sumbal (E-mail: asumbal@adb.org)
Central and West Asia Department
Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 20 August 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: This technical assistance (TA) is aligned with the Uzbekistan CPS (2012-2016) approved in September 2012 and supports CPS objectives promoting governance, institutional improvement, and capacity development. The President of Uzbekistan has also passed a number of decrees to develop ICT in Government and improve the business environment. A MOU between the Government and ADB was signed in November 2012 which outlined how ADB could assist in meeting these Government objectives.

Impact: Improved public access to government processes in Uzbekistan.

Outcome: Increased government service access through electronic means.

Outputs:

- A strategy, prioritized action plan and financing plan to improve government-to-public and government-to-business electronic interface.
- Phased implementation strategies, action plans, and financing plans for priority e-government services.
- Pilot implementation strategies, action plans and financing plans for priority e-Government applications. Prioritized e-government services piloted.
- Improved public awareness about e-government reforms and the information technology staff trained to manage the new automated systems effectively

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46444-001/business-opportunities>

VANUATU

Supporting the Preparation of the National Sustainable Development Plan

TA No. : 8726
Project No. : 47157-001
Amount (US \$ million) : 0.4
Sector : Public sector management

Responsible ADB Officer: Hayden Everett (E-mail: heverett@adb.org)
Pacific Department
Pacific Liaison and Coordination Office in Sydney, Australia

Status: ADB Board approved on 23 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: The Priorities and Action Agenda of the Government of Vanuatu is the current national development plan for 2006-2015. As the current national development plan ends in 2015, the government has started the preparation of a new development plan, and has asked the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to assist this process. While the government has prior experience in development planning, it is looking to ADB to strengthen its capacity in this area. A core team was established to lead the preparation of the proposed national sustainable development plan (NSDP). It is made up of representatives from the government, civil society, the private sector, academia, and development partners. While the NSDP core team will lead the process, ADB will provide technical support to assist the Government prepare the NSDP in accordance with sound development planning principles and processes. Government agencies and development partners were consulted on the proposed technical assistance (TA) during the ADB workshop on the Vanuatu country operations business plan, 2015-2017 in Port Vila in March 2014. Consultation with the Department of Strategic Policy Planning and Aid Coordination (DSPPAC) and the NSDP core team took place during March-May 2014, and the government agreed with the TA as proposed.

Impact: The NSDP guides the implementation and monitoring of Vanuatu's development vision and priorities.

Outcome: Improved government capacity in development planning and managing for development results

Outputs:

1. Strengthened development planning processes for preparation of the proposed NSDP.
2. Strengthened monitoring and evaluation processes and systems for the proposed NSDP.

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47367-001/business-opportunities>

VIETNAM

Implementation of Civil Service Reform Plan

TA No. : 8726
Project No. : 47157-001
Sector : Public sector management

Responsible ADB Officer: Dao Viet Dung (E-mail: dvdung@adb.org)
Southeast Asia Department
Viet Nam Resident Mission

Status: ADB Board approved on 23 September 2014.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy: As Viet Nam is entering into the new 10-year period as a middle income country, there are new set of challenges the country needs to deal with. In a dynamic and fast changing environment, enhancing Viet Nam's competitiveness is vital but also a challenge. Adaptation to a fast changing environment requires a diverse range of active Government interventions, from appropriate and enabling policy frameworks and effective regulatory mechanisms, to provision of efficient infrastructure and the effective delivery of public services. A more efficient, effective and ethical bureaucracy is essential for the country to manage sustainable growth in the medium to long-term. As directing and leading the new development path, the whole government machinery should move from input-based forward to focus on accountability and results-oriented management. The key driving for change is centered on civil service reform as the quality of the policies, the effectiveness of the enforcement all depend on the performance and accountability of the civil servants. Institutional reform, including civil service reform is regarded as one of three breakthrough in the socio-economic development Strategy from 2011-2020. To this end, the Government issued on 18 October 2012 a Plan to step up the improving public services and strengthening civil servants in medium term from 2012 to

2015. The plan lists out key tasks to be delivered including conducting job description across sector and improving recruitment policy and practices.

Impact: Quality of HRM in government agencies improved

Outcome: Integrated HRM in government agencies implemented

Outputs:

- Standardized system for job analysis and job descriptions without gender discrimination
- Competency frameworks (qualification standards) by grades and managerial positions
- Guidelines on performance evaluation procedures
- Dissemination of lessons learned and good practices for change management

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/47157-001/business-opportunities>

IV. GRANT

KYRGYZ

Strengthening Education System Sector Development Program

Project No. : 46537-002
Amount (US \$ million) : 22
Sector : Education

Responsible ADB Officer: Jazira Asanova (E-mail: jasanova@adb.org)
Central and West Asia Department
Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division

Status: ADB Board approved on 29 September 2014.

Impact: Improved human resources development for competitiveness of the Kyrgyz Republic

Outcome: Enhanced quality, access, and efficiency of public education in the Kyrgyz Republic

Outputs:

- Quality of curriculum and teaching learning materials improved
- Quality of teachers and in-service teacher training improved
- Access to quality education through innovative schools improved
- Sector and project management improved

Business opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/46537-002/business-opportunities>

V. ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE SECTOR

REGIONAL

Spice Value Chain Development

Project No. : 48901-014
Approval Nos. : EI7020-01; LN7021-01
Sector : Agriculture, natural resources and rural development

Responsible ADB Officer: Martin Lemoine (E-mail: mlemoine@adb.org)
Private Sector Operations Department
Infrastructure Finance Division 1

Status: ADB Board approved on 4 September 2014.

Description: The project will support Akay's investments across the spice value chain, from climate-resilient and inclusive farming models to processing and export of high-value spice products. The project will be developed in two phases. In phase 1, starting in FY2015 and with a total project cost of up to \$10.4 million, Akay will invest in: (i) expansion of sterilized spices business in India, (ii) expansion of its nutraceuticals plant in India, and (iii) investment in climate-resilient farming technologies for its organic farm in Cambodia. Phase 2 will begin after 31 March 2015, subject to satisfactory performance in Phase 1 implementation. The total phase 2 project cost will be \$18.6 million, with Akay investing in: (i) expansion of its seasonings plant in India, (ii) construction of an oleoresin extraction plant in Cambodia, and (iii) implementation of contract farming model in Cambodia. ADB will provide \$16.5 million financing to Akay for the project. In addition, ADB will administer up to \$5 million loans from the ADB Strategic Climate Fund. The project will help sustain high value-added agriculture growth in India and Cambodia. The project will promote regional integration, trade, and investment (particularly spice exports from India and Cambodia to the rest of Asia, and foreign direct investment in Cambodia from the rest of Asia). The project will also contribute to rural poverty reduction by including farmers in the global spice value chain. Akay is a leading high-value spice producer and exporter in India. Since its establishment in 1993, Akay has grown to one of the top five exporters of spice oleoresins in the world. It is headquartered in Cochin, Kerala and operates five processing plants in India with total capacity of 42,000 tons of raw material per year. It has a distribution network in 70 countries. Akay primarily exports to the United States, Europe, and the People s Republic of China.

Business Opportunities: <http://www.adb.org/projects/48901-014/business-opportunities>

VI. IN-COUNTRY EMBASSY AND COMMERCIAL OFFICES

COUNTRY	EMBASSY POST	COMMERCIAL POST
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DPO AP 96515-1565,

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Ermita, Manila 1000
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