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## **Climate Change and the Asian Development Bank**

Accelerating climate change poses a danger to the future health, safety, and livelihoods of people worldwide. Especially vulnerable are those who live in poverty. Rapid economic expansion in Asia and the Pacific has brought substantial benefits to the region's poor. But it is now clear that transition to low carbon economies is necessary to mitigate dangerous levels of climate change, or else economic growth itself could be threatened.

Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to acceptable levels is needed in the next 10 to 20 years. And because changes in climate patterns and sea level rise are already in progress, adaptation measures must be put in place to protect communities from anticipated adverse near-term and long-term impacts. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is responding to the challenge by taking an active role to promote the mainstreaming of mitigation and adaptation considerations throughout the Asia and Pacific region.

## **About the Asian Development Bank**

ADB aims to improve the welfare of the people in the Asia and Pacific region, particularly the nearly 1.9 billion who live on less than \$2 a day. Despite many success stories, the region remains home to two thirds of the world's poor. ADB is a multilateral development finance institution owned by 67 members, 48 from the region and 19 from other parts of the globe. ADB's vision is a region free of poverty. Its mission is to help its developing member countries reduce poverty and improve their quality of life.

ADB's main instruments for helping its developing member countries are policy dialogue, loans, equity investments, guarantees, grants, and technical assistance. ADB's annual lending volume is typically about \$6 billion, with technical assistance usually totaling about \$180 million a year.

ADB's headquarters is in Manila. It has 26 offices around the world and more than 2,000 employees from over 50 countries.