



## Major Change in Scope and Amount

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Project Number: 37402-2  
Technical Assistance Number: 6143  
January 2007

### RETA 6143: Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (Financed by the Gender and Development Cooperation Fund)

1. On 28 November 2003, the regional technical assistance (RETA) for *Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*<sup>1</sup> was approved by the Board of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for \$1,500,000, for financing on a grant basis by the Gender and Development Cooperation Fund (GDCF).<sup>2</sup> The RETA completion date was revised from 28 February to 31 December 2007, and then to 31 December 2008.

2. The RETA aims to help (i) ADB more consistently and effectively implement its gender and development (GAD) policy and action plan; and (ii) key government agencies in developing member countries more systematically address gender concerns in planning, development, and implementation of programs and projects to reduce gender disparities and meet the Millennium Development Goals. The RETA supports (i) gender mainstreaming in country partnership strategies; (ii) gender-inclusive loan project or program design; (iii) greater gender awareness in government planning, staffing, and project implementation; (iv) identification of good practices and lessons for more gender-inclusive projects and programs; and (v) stronger GAD partnerships and networks.

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<sup>1</sup> ADB. 2003. *Technical Assistance for Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*. Manila.

<sup>2</sup> ADB. 2003. *Gender and Development Cooperation Fund*. Manila. The GDCF is administered by ADB.

3. Several initiatives supporting GAD have been approved for funding under the RETA. To accommodate new subprojects for implementation by 2008, the RETA budget was increased by \$1,000,000 to be financed from the GDCF.<sup>3</sup> The new subprojects will come under the existing RETA categories, e.g., GAD support for ADB loans, GAD capacity building and GAD support for activities related to country partnership strategies. Although the increase constituted a major change in scope (\$1,000,000 exceeded 15% of the original RETA amount), the change will not fundamentally affect or alter the RETA's overall purpose, objectives and implementation arrangements.

4. The Board is notified of this major change in scope and increase in RETA amount by the equivalent of \$1,000,000, to be financed on a grant basis from the Gender and Development Cooperation Fund, and administered by the ADB. After this increase in RETA budget, the total RETA amounts to \$2,500,000.

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<sup>3</sup> Based on the simplified approval procedures agreed to by the donors of the GDCF, ADB does not need to seek donors' endorsement for the increase in RETA amount.