

RETA 6016-REG: CLEAN AIR INITIATIVE FOR ASIAN CITIES

Change in Scope and Implementation Arrangements

1. The regional technical assistance (TA), Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia) promotes the development of a regional air quality management community through the sharing of knowledge and best practices on air quality management, improvement of policy and regulatory frameworks at the regional level, formulation of integrated air quality management strategies, and implementation of pilot projects. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) launched CAI-Asia, with the aim of bringing stakeholders together from the national and local government, civil society, development agencies, and the private sector. A number of private sector organizations have indicated their willingness to provide supplementary financing for the ADB project to develop CAI-Asia.

2. CAI-Asia has been successful in its efforts to set up a membership network in Asia. Its current membership includes 23 major cities in Asia, 15 national government agencies, 42 nongovernment organizations and academic institutions, 10 private sector organizations, and 6 international development agencies. The CAI-Asia network is acknowledged as the primary air quality network in Asia. CAI-Asia has also been successful in developing the most comprehensive information base on air quality management through its web sites: <http://worldbank.org/cleanair/caiasia> and <http://adb.org/vehicle-emissions>.

3. The impact of the CAI-Asia activities is also demonstrated through the interest of private sector firms to become a member of CAI-Asia and of other funding organizations to provide financial assistance to implement activities of the initiative. Major changes of scope approved by Management in April 2003 and August 2003 authorized private sector cofinancing for TA 6016 in the amounts of \$145,000 and \$92,015.¹ The Asian Clean Fuels Association (ACFA), Australia Department of Environment and Heritage (Environment Australia), Emitec, International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA), and William and Flora Hewlett Foundation (Hewlett Foundation), recently indicated that they would like to provide additional cofinancing for TA 6016. Discussions are ongoing with other private sector companies regarding membership in CAI-Asia.

4. The additional inputs from ACFA, Emitec, Environment Australia, IPIECA, and Hewlett Foundation will be used for the (i) completion of the second phase of the benchmarking study of air quality in 25 Asian cities, (ii) consultations for the strategic framework for air quality management in Asia, (iii) organization of the Better Air Quality 2003 regional workshop and CAI-Asia General Assembly, (iv) ongoing reconstruction of the CAI-Asia web site, (v) study on the emission reduction potential of low sulfur diesel fuels in Asian countries, and (vi) oil dialogue for cleaner fuels in Asia. These activities will be guided by the CAI-Asia business plan of 2003, which was adopted at the general assembly of CAI-Asia in December 2002 and reviewed by the CAI-Asia executive council in June 2003 in Manila.

5. The President approved on 5 November 2003, ADB's administering the supplementary funds on behalf of ACFA, Emitec, Environment Australia, IPIECA, and Hewlett Foundation.

¹ Asian Development Bank. 2001. *Technical Assistance for Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities*. Manila.

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