

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

POVERTY REDUCTION COOPERATION FUND

JULY 2002–DECEMBER 2003

June 2004

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	– Asian Development Bank
CSP	– country strategy and program
CSPU	– country strategy and program update
DFID	– Department for International Development of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
DMC	– developing member country
ECRD	– East and Central Asia Department
GCF	– Governance Cooperation Fund
GMS-RCSP	– Greater Mekong Subregion – Regional Cooperation Strategy Program
HIV/AIDS	– Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
MDG	– millennium development goals
MKRD	– Mekong Department
NGO	– nongovernment organization
NPPF	– National Poverty Focal Point
NPRS Fund	– Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies
OCO	– Office of Cofinancing Operations
PARD	– Pacific Department
PRC	– People’s Republic of China
PRCM	– People’s Republic of China Resident Mission
PRF	– Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund
RCSP	– Regional Cooperation Strategy and Program
RETA	– regional technical assistance
RM	– resident mission
RSDD	– Regional and Sustainable Development Department
RSPR	– Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division, Regional and Sustainable Development Department
SARD	– South Asia Department
TA	– technical assistance

NOTE

In this report, “\$” refers to US dollar.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This first Annual Report on the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (PRF) covers the period from the PRF's establishment on 5 July 2002 to 31 December 2003.¹ The Report summarizes the overall achievements of the PRF in portfolio development, financial administration, and strategic fund management covered by the report period. It also sets out a proposed work program for 2004.

2. The Report was prepared by the Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in collaboration with the Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO). It complies with the reporting requirements stipulated in the PRF Board Paper and the Memorandum of Understanding.² The Report builds on the Progress Report (July 2002–June 2003)³ and other relevant reports that have been submitted to the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (DFID). The next annual report will be submitted in early 2005.

II. BACKGROUND

3. Established in July 2002 as a multidonor fund, the PRF comprises an initial contribution of £39 million (about \$70 million as of 31 December 2003) from DFID until March 2006. Of that amount, £9 million (about \$16 million) is earmarked for the People's Republic of China (PRC). The following paragraphs summarize the key features of the PRF as described in the Board paper.

A. Purpose and Objectives

4. The goal of the PRF is to assist ADB in reducing poverty in its developing member countries (DMCs). The PRF thus augments ADB's efforts for poverty reduction and, as a result, (i) assists in policy dialogue and strategy formulation for poverty reduction, (ii) develops new programs and projects with increased focus on poverty reduction, (iii) monitors and assesses the poverty reduction impact at the project, meso-, and macro-levels, (iv) launches pilot poverty reduction activities to influence future loan design, (v) involves broader stakeholder consultations at all stages of design and implementation, (vi) strengthens ADB's role as the regional development bank for Asia and the Pacific to promote poverty reduction, and (viii) helps perform other activities mutually agreed upon between DFID and ADB.

B. Activities and Scope

5. The PRF was established to support the following activities: (i) technical assistance (TA) for capacity and institution building, (ii) provision of advisory inputs, (iii) thematic and sector work, (iv) monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment, (v) public conferences, workshops, and other events, (vi) innovative activities such as micro and pilot projects, with clear demonstration effects, (vii) national experts based in ADB's resident missions (RMs) working on poverty analysis, and poverty-related gender, stakeholder participation, and governance issues,

¹ The report period was set to coincide with the Asian Development Bank's fiscal year (i.e., calendar year).

² ADB. 2002. *Cooperation with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund*, Manila.

³ Submitted to DFID on 28 July 2003.

(viii) outreach and communication, and (ix) administrative costs of fund management. The PRF is not to be used for ADB's permanent staffing costs (including salaries and training). It is principally focused on country-based work but cross-border activities can be supported as long as they will have a measurable impact on the poverty situation in a country. Projects supported by the PRF generally cost from \$0.1 to \$1.0 million.

6. The PRF particularly supports innovative action research, and country- or theme-focused poverty analysis, stakeholder coordination, involvement of nongovernment organizations, pilot activities, and poverty reduction monitoring.

C. Eligibility

7. The PRF is open to ADB's DMCs classified as A, B1, or B2, excluding India for which there is a separate DFID fund.⁴ After the establishment of the poverty reduction partnership of DFID-Indonesia, Indonesia was also excluded. All activities should (i) have a strong poverty reduction focus, (ii) support the relevant ADB country strategy and program (CSP) and the policies of the government, (iii) be designed to support shared poverty objectives in the existing and pipeline activities of other funding agencies to enhance effectiveness, avoid duplication, and accelerate learning, (iv) not substitute for activities that would otherwise be financed by ADB (additionality factor) (v) make maximum use of local expertise and civil society participation, and (vi) support projects based solely on their merit for systemic poverty reduction, with no specific country allocation.

D. Approval Procedure

8. For the PRF–Headquarters (PRF-HQ),⁵ the approval procedure for new projects has been fully aligned with the Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies (NPRS) Fund financed by the Netherlands (para. 12). The procedure comprises two main stages, i.e., concept paper endorsement by the donor and TA paper approval by ADB, and can be further broken down into the following steps.

9. First, after initial discussion with the respective country stakeholders, the requests for PRF assistance are received by RSDD as a coordinating department from the ADB regional and knowledge management departments and RMs throughout the year. In 2003, the proposals were solicited in two 6-monthly batches. Following a brief discussion, ADB staff prepare proposals and submit them to RSDD. The concept papers are screened in light of the PRF eligibility criteria (para. 7). RSDD then organizes peer review meetings to solicit comments from selected staff and to refine the proposals. RSDD consolidates the proposals and submits them to DFID. The proposals are finally endorsed for funding during the NPRS Fund/PRF strategy meetings.

⁴ As of 9 January 2003, ADB's classification of its DMCs is as follows: (i) Group A comprises Afghanistan, Bhutan, Cambodia, Kiribati, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu; (ii) Group B1 comprises Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tonga, and Viet Nam; (iii) Group B2 comprises People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Nauru, and Papua New Guinea; and (iv) Group C comprises Fiji Islands, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Group C countries are excluded because of the PRF's focus on the poorer countries.

⁵ "PRF-HQ" as opposed to "PRF-PRC" will be used in this report to describe the component covering the PRF countries excluding PRC.

10. The second stage is to obtain ADB approval. Once the concept note is cleared by the ADB Vice President or is included in the CSP or its annual updates (CSPUs), the operational project teams process the respective TA papers in accordance with ADB procedures and based on further discussion with the governments and civil society of the respective countries, and submit them for approval to the ADB Management or Board of Directors as appropriate. After ADB approval, ADB and the governments sign the TA cooperation letters, and project implementation begins. The detailed NPRS Fund/PRF processing steps are in Appendix 1.

11. For the PRF-PRC,⁶ the approval process is fully integrated into ADB's CSP process. For inclusion into CSPs and CSPUs, proposals prepared by ADB or the Government need to be cleared by the Ministry of Finance, DFID, and the ADB's PRC Resident Mission (PRCM). After this, ADB project officers prepare the respective TA papers for ADB approval in accordance with ADB's general guidelines. When the draft TA paper is circulated across the relevant departments in ADB, DFID is also given an opportunity to give final comments. There is some flexibility in that new proposals may be added throughout the year in response to any emerging needs, in which case the initial tripartite clearance is needed as mentioned above, as well as the ADB Vice President's concept note clearance, before preparing a TA paper.

E. ADB Responsibilities

12. In view of ADB's reorganization in January 2002 and the new business processes,⁷ the overall management of the PRF was based in the Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division (RSPR) of RSDD. RSDD/RSPR also performs similar functions for the NPRS Fund. OCO acts as the official channel of communications between DFID and ADB, particularly on the financial performance of the PRF. For PRF-PRC, PRCM plays a key role in technical management and closely coordinates with RSDD/RSPR.

F. Coordination and Partnership

13. As mentioned in (paras. 8 and 12), the PRF is administered and managed in close coordination with the NPRS. The PRF-NPRS partnership is strengthened through joint semiannual strategy meetings in Manila, during which the work program and the status of project implementation are discussed. The agenda of these semiannual strategy meetings, among others, include (i) indicative allocation of resources and annual work program, (ii) program and portfolio management to balance the regional, sector, and thematic allocations, (iii) implementation issues and donor coordination, and (iv) activities undertaken and their poverty reduction impacts.

14. The PRF also complements ADB's other poverty reduction funds and cofinancing mechanisms such as the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, Technical Assistance Cooperation Fund for India, and DFID-ADB Poverty Reduction Partnership in Indonesia. Further, the PRF coordinates with other thematic and/or sector trust funds managed by RSDD, such as Gender and Development Cooperation Fund, Governance Cooperation Fund, Poverty and Environment Fund, and Cooperation Fund for the Water Sector. Periodic information sharing and discussion with coordinators of other funds prevent overlaps and ensure complementarities across proposed activities. Coordinators of other funds are invited to the semiannual strategy meetings as appropriate.

⁶ A separate PRC component is provided because DFID is financing such projects from its country allocations for the PRC.

⁷ ADB. 2002. *Business Processes for the Reorganized ADB*. Manila.

G. Reporting

15. ADB furnishes DFID with annual reports and periodic disbursement statements. External audit reports may also be submitted as required by DFID. The semiannual NPRS/PRF strategy meetings also offer an opportunity for ADB to make up-to-date reports to the donors.

H. Monitoring and Evaluation

16. The aggregate impacts of the PRF-supported activities will be monitored and evaluated in accordance with the PRF framework (Appendix 1 in the PRF Board Paper). Detailed methodologies will be developed in line with a possible midterm review in 2004 [para. 33 (vii)].

III. OVERVIEW OF PRF ACHIEVEMENTS: JULY 2002–DECEMBER 2003

17. During the first 18 months, the PRF made a successful transition from an initial start-up phase to a full-fledged implementation phase. There have been steady portfolio development, improvement in quality at entry, and increased efficiency, effectiveness, and strategic focus in fund management. Details follow.

A. Project Portfolio Development

18. **Overview.** As of 31 December 2003, DFID had endorsed for financing by the PRF 58 project proposals worth \$24.35 million or about 35% of DFID's initial contribution of £39 million (about \$70 million). The proposals comprised 37 TAs totaling \$14.22 million for PRF-HQ and 21 totaling \$10.13 million for PRF-PRC. Of the total 58 TAs, 2 (\$0.07 million, PRF-HQ only) have been completed; 29 (\$11.30 million or 46% of total portfolio) have been approved by ADB (comprising 22 TAs totaling \$8.39 million for PRF-HQ and 7 totaling \$2.91 million for PRF-PRC); and 27 (\$12.99 million or 53% of total portfolio) have been endorsed by DFID and were being processed for ADB approval (comprising 13 TAs totaling \$5.77 million for PRF-HQ and 14 TAs totaling \$7.22 million for the PRF-PRC⁸). The projects endorsed for PRF financing by DFID are listed in Appendix 2. The detailed description and status of all projects are in Appendix 3.

19. **Endorsement.** The pace of endorsement of new projects has been on track in general, but accelerated further in 2003 after the bulk endorsement of the PRC projects as part of the CSP process. In 2002, DFID endorsed 26 projects totaling \$11.57 million (including 2 projects totaling \$1.80 million for PRF-PRC) during the first (15–17 July 2002) and second (11–13 December 2002) strategy meetings. In 2003, 13 projects totaling \$4.45 million were endorsed for the PRF-HQ during the third strategy meeting (28–30 July 2003), while 19 TAs totaling \$8.33 million for the PRF-PRC component received concept clearance in August 2003.

20. **ADB Approval.** The pace of ADB approval also accelerated as the portfolio of endorsed projects expanded. By 31 December 2002, ADB had approved 7 PRF-HQ TAs (\$1.80 million). In 2003, 17 TAs (\$6.65 million) for PRF-HQ and 7 (\$2.91 million) for the PRF-PRC were approved. The faster approval rate in 2003 is attributed partly to the new 9-month cutoff scheme adopted in July 2003, under which funding validity would be reconsidered if a TA cannot be approved by ADB within 9 months from endorsement of funding.

⁸ The PRF-PRC portfolio includes the entire annual work program of 2004, while PRF-HQ includes only part of the 2004 work program.

21. **Implementation.** Thirteen TAs had become effective and were at various stages of implementation by 31 December 2003. Eight were implemented generally on schedule, while five experienced some delays for various reasons such as an unexpectedly long time required to coordinate various implementation partners (e.g., Inter-Regional: Breeding Iron-Rich Rice to Reduce Iron Deficiency Anemia in Asia);⁹ unexpectedly long time required to coordinate many countries in regional TAs (e.g. Inter-Regional: Developing Tools for Assessing the Effectiveness of ADB Operations in Reducing Poverty);¹⁰ delayed consultant fielding (e.g. Lao People's Democratic Republic: Social Protection: Issues and Options);¹¹ delayed work by consultants (e.g. Viet Nam: Transport Services for the Poor);¹² and others.¹³

22. **Completion.** Two small-scale TAs were endorsed, approved, implemented and completed during the report period. Both have led to follow-on activities, which are further funded by the PRF. For example, the Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis¹⁴ (TA 6061-REG) developed a regionwide poverty reduction capacity building framework and successfully leveraged other development partners' participation and support to the framework (Appendix 3).

23. **Profile of Portfolio.** The PRF projects endorsed by DFID cover all categories of the envisaged activities and scope (Para 5).¹⁵ Some examples are highlighted in the box and are described in detail in Appendix 3. The portfolio covers all key sectors, including agriculture and natural resources management (21%), social sector (16%), transport and communication (11%), social protection (8%), industry and trade (6%), and others. Most of the projects have multiple thematic objectives, with human development as a most frequent thematic objective (57% of total), followed by gender and development (29%), good governance (26%), economic growth (21%), environmental protection (19%), and private sector development (19%). In the regional component, while the PRF portfolio spreads across all regions except Southeast Asia,¹⁶ the share of the Mekong Region is highest (52%), followed by that for South Asia (17%) and the Pacific (7%). Inter-regional projects make up 24%.

⁹ ADB. 2003. Regional Technical Assistance on *Fifth Agriculture and Natural Research at CGIAR Centers – Breeding Iron-Rich Rice to Reduce Iron-Deficiency Anemia in Asia* (Suppl.). Manila.

¹⁰ ADB. 2002. Regional Technical Assistance on *Developing Tools for Assessing the Effectiveness of ADB Operations in Reducing Poverty*. Manila.

¹¹ ADB. 2002. Technical Assistance to LAO PDR for *Social Protection: Issues and Options*. Manila

¹² ADB. 2002. Technical Assistance to Viet Nam for *Transport Services for the Poor*. Manila.

¹³ A detailed analysis of the pace of TA processing and implementation and factors affecting it is found in, ADB. 2003. Issues Paper on the Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies and the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund. Manila. Revised draft for discussion (27 January 2003). (paras. 30–36).

¹⁴ ADB. 2002. Regional Technical Assistance for *Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis*. Manila.

¹⁵ Most projects cover more than one category of activities. Nearly all projects (90%) provide capacity building for poverty reduction, followed by policy and strategy support (62%), pilot activities to influence designs (34%), support to the consultative and participatory process (33%), development of new programs and projects (31%), outreach and communication (14%) and resident mission support (10%).

¹⁶ The Philippines is not eligible for PRF financing since it belongs to Group C under ADB's graduation policy. While Indonesia is eligible, PRF has not been utilized because of the availability of the DFID local fund. See also para. 7.

Examples of Approved PRF Projects

Consultative Process for the ADB's Regional Cooperation Strategy

Promoting NGO Support for Poverty Alleviation in the Greater Mekong Subregion (TA 6118 – REG, \$150,000)

This small-scale initiative is facilitating a process to establish and institutionalize Government-NGO-ADB tripartite partnership along with the Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Cooperation Strategy and Program of ADB (GMS-RCSP) to be approved in 2004. Facilitated by an NGO, the project brings in the NGO's perceptions of regional poverty issues (e.g., human and drug trafficking, HIV/AIDS, natural resources management, cross-border activities of the private sector) and how they should be addressed in the GMS-RCSP. This tripartite mechanism will continue to monitor implementation of the RSCP.

Piloting New Approaches to Enhance Poverty Reduction Impacts of Asian Development Bank Operations

PRC: Fighting Poverty through HIV/AIDS on Road Projects in Yunnan Province (TA 4142-PRC, \$800,000)

The pilot project will raise awareness among the local communities of the increased risks of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, and develop and pilot-test preventive service delivery and monitoring mechanisms along with an ADB-financed road project. The project will target potential high-risk groups such as construction workers, commercial sex workers, truck drivers, and vulnerable minority groups.

Addressing Emerging Poverty Issues Through Pilot Activities

CAM: Preventing Poverty and Empowering Female Garment Workers Affected by the Changing International Trade Environment (TA 4131-CAM, \$500,000)

The impact of globalization on poverty has emerged as an important issue. In Cambodia, the PRF is supporting a pilot project to assess the type and degree of impacts of the lifting of the trade quota allocation in the garment industry by the end of 2004. The garment industry has been seen as a vehicle for poor young women's economic empowerment. The withdrawal of foreign investments in Cambodia's single largest industry consequent to the quota lifting would have catastrophic socioeconomic impacts. The project will carry out detailed impact analysis on the industry and its workers, and conduct small-scale pilot subprojects to identify the most effective labor market and social protection support.

Capacity Building for Poverty Monitoring

BAN: Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation (TA 4303-BAN, \$350,000)

The TA will support the newly established National Poverty Focal Point (NPF) under the General Economics Division of the Planning Commission by setting up and implementing a monitoring and evaluation framework. It will also assist the NPF to better perform its coordinating role with key government agencies and advocacy role with policymakers to strengthen the linkage between the policy and practices on the ground.

Strengthening Resident Mission Capacity in Addressing Poverty (TA 3955-CAM,¹⁷ TA 4277-PAK,¹⁸ TA 4252-VIE¹⁹)

The PRF, together with the NPRS and ADB financing, is assisting the capacity of three ADB resident missions (Cambodia, Pakistan and Viet Nam) in moving forward various poverty reduction initiatives in the respective country. A domestic poverty reduction specialist in each resident mission is being recruited to engage in day-to-day support to the government and civil society to contribute to achieving the poverty reduction goals set in respective national poverty reduction strategy.

B. Financial Status

24. **Overview.** The total PRF contribution committed by DFID is £39 million for project financing from July 2002 to March 2006. As of 31 December 2003, the value of the PRF (including income from investment, interest earned, gain/loss on foreign exchange transactions) was \$69.50 million, of which, ADB had received \$6.39 million. Of the total contribution of DFID, \$11.36 million has been committed for 31 TAs (paras. 18 and 20). The total actual expenditure of the committed amount was \$0.51 million. Together with administrative costs and bank charges, the total expenditure totaled \$0.54 million. The remaining uncommitted balance (net of the administration cost, bank charges and other miscellaneous costs) was \$57.57 million. The financial statement as of 31 December 2003, including disbursements by project, is in Appendix 4.

25. **Disbursement.** During the report period, actual disbursements were \$512,143 on 31 December 2003 (for 11 TAs totaling \$4.80 million, of a total 13 effective TAs; see para. 21). Two effective TAs had no disbursement over a period of time (i.e., Inter-Regional: Iron-Rich Rice [footnote 9] and Lao: Social Protection [footnote 11]). PRC TAs had no actual disbursement in the reporting period.

26. **Projection for 2004.** The cumulative disbursement of \$0.51 million as of 31 December 2003 was well within the already received amount of \$6.39 million. This is partly due to the earlier misunderstanding of the remittances based on commitment vs disbursement projection. Upon the request of DFID and as per PRF Memorandum of Understanding, ADB started in July 2003 semiannual disbursement projection based on the project-by-project disbursement estimates submitted by project officers. According to the projection, the incremental disbursements expected for January-June 2004 and July-December 2004 are at \$2.58 million (PRF-HQ \$1.75 million and PRF-PRC \$0.83 million) and \$6.20 million (Regional \$4.39 million and PRC \$1.81 million).²⁰ Including administrative and bank charges, it is expected that an additional remittance of about \$3.0 million would be required in the second half of 2004. The estimated increase in the overall disbursement is due to the effectiveness of the recently approved TAs. The pace of disbursement will continue to be monitored by the respective regional departments and RSDD/RSPR.

¹⁷ ADB. 2003. *Engagement of a Poverty Consultant at the Cambodia Resident Mission (Extension)*. Manila.

¹⁸ ADB. 2003. *Supporting Poverty Reduction Initiatives in Pakistan*. Manila.

¹⁹ ADB. 2003. *Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Viet Nam*. Manila.

²⁰ Detailed estimates for each project are found in Appendix 2 of PRF Portfolio and Fund Management Summary Sheet (submitted to the Netherlands on 27 January 2004 to replace the Fourth SemiAnnual Progress Update).

C. Key Achievements in Fund Management

27. **Measures to Ensure Quality at Entry.** Various new measures were adopted, especially in the second half of 2003, to ensure the quality of project design and its focus on systemic poverty reduction impact. Among the measures are (i) systematization of peer review meetings with the participation of relevant peer reviewers from ADB, (ii) advance submission of the peer-reviewed and revised concept paper to the donors to allow well-prepared and quality discussion at the semiannual strategy meetings (para. 30), and (iii) strengthened focus on the NPRS/PRF eligibility criteria through the introduction of the new concept paper format (Appendix 5) and the guidelines for peer reviewers (Appendix 6). The new measures were complemented by continuing technical advisory support from RSDD/RSPR throughout the project conceptualization and processing stage and financial support by the Fund for fact-finding missions.

28. **Strengthened Monitoring of Implementation.** In response to the heightened emphasis on results by DFID and the international community, a monitoring system for the PRF has been strengthened by introducing the following measures: (i) recruitment of two administrative contractual staff members to strengthen monitoring of TA progress, such as increased communication with project staff and day-to-day monitoring of the ADB-wide TA performance report system; (ii) revamp of the project database and its regular updating; (iii) introduction of a one-page semiannual project status report to be submitted by all project officers to allow inclusion of most up-to-date information in the semiannual and annual reports to the donors (Appendix 3); (iv) introduction of semiannual disbursement projection (as part of the semiannual project status report) to allow projection of the overall funding requirement as well as monitoring of the disbursement pace; (v) quarterly submission of the status of grants and statement of expenditures (prepared by the Controller's Department) to monitor disbursement pace and trend; and (vi) improved analysis of the portfolio content by including the regional balance as well as type of assistance.

29. **Procedural Clarity and Improvement.** While in 2002 new proposals were accepted as they came, in 2003 a twice-a-year batch system was applied, and the scheduled intakes of the proposals were announced in advance. The change increased the preparedness of the project officers who often had to plan their work schedules well in advance. In addition, to provide a clear benchmark in the processing schedule, a 9-month cutoff system (para. 20) was introduced, which accelerated the pace of TA processing. Further, in view of the need to prepare an ADB-wide concept note for inclusion in CSPs and CSPUs or for the Vice President's concept clearance, a new concept paper format was prepared (para. 27). The NPRS/PRF concept paper template is built into ADB's normal procedure.

30. **Strengthened Strategic Focus.** During the review period, RSDD organized three semi-annual NPRS/PRF strategy meetings in Manila (the first on 15–17 July 2002, the second on 11–13 December 2002, and the third on 28 July 2003). The strategy meetings successfully provided strategic dimensions to the NPRS/PRF management. Various measures highlighted paras. 26–28 arose from these meetings. In particular, the Issues Paper prepared for the Fourth Strategy Meeting provided analysis and possible solutions and scenarios to address the following issues: (i) procedural alignment of NPRS/PRF with CSPs and CSPUs, (ii) factors affecting the pace of disbursement and ways to accelerate it, and (iii) mechanisms to systematically monitor aggregate impacts of the NPRS/PRF at country and subregional levels.²¹ The draft Issues

²¹ ADB, 2004. *Issues Paper for the Fourth Strategy Meeting*, January, Manila, Final Draft.

Paper was circulated to the concerned departments within ADB and to the donors on 16 December 2003.

31. **Outreach and Communication.** Through a series of promotional activities, the PRF, together with the NPRS, has gained significant visibility within ADB. External relations were also actively carried out. The PRF web site (<http://adb.org/prf/>) was set up immediately after the establishment of the Fund, and case studies of good practice are being developed in preparation for revamping the web site in 2004. Press releases were made for many of the approved projects. Some regional departments (e.g., Mekong Region) engaged in policy dialogue with the government on how to achieve effective and focused use of the available poverty reduction funds, which increased their awareness and interest. Periodic meetings and discussions were held with NGOs on how ADB and NGOs can work together through the PRF.

32. **Coordination and Partnership.** Continuous efforts have been maintained to coordinate with other poverty reduction grant funds and thematic and/or sector trust funds (paras. 13–14). DFID agreed during the Third Strategy Meeting to pursue further harmonization with the NPRS in fund management and invited other donors to join the PRF. Information exchange with coordinators of other funds was strengthened. For example, the lessons learned and the revised procedures for the Governance Cooperation Fund (GCF), which went through a midterm review in 2003, were incorporated into the Issues Paper of the NPRS/PRF. The Coordinator of the NPRS/PRF was in turn invited to the donor meeting of the GCF to share experience in fund management.

IV. ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2004

33. Two semiannual NPRS/PRF strategy meetings were scheduled for 2004: the Fourth Strategy Meeting on 27–29 January 2004, and the Fifth strategy meeting on 27–29 July 2004. The following are the targets for 2004.

- (i) Ensure early policy dialogue with DMCs in identifying new proposals through a strengthened procedural alignment with CSPs and CSPUs.
- (ii) Continue the high level of new project endorsement (about \$18 million for the regional component in 2004²²) while ensuring quality at entry.
- (iii) Accelerate ADB approval of endorsed projects by maintaining a cutoff date for approval and establishing streamlined procedures.
- (iv) Accelerate implementation and disbursements of approved projects through close monitoring of disbursement targets.
- (v) Continue to help the regional departments prepare quality proposals through the peer review process and other measures.
- (vi) Enhance outreach and communications through the revamped web site, press releases, other media tools, and continued consultation with regional departments.

²² For PRF-PRC, the 2004 program totaling \$5.72 million has already been included in the portfolio.

- (vii) In line with ADB's new results-based management, strengthen the monitoring of demonstrable outcomes of the activities carried out and their impacts on ADB operations, possibly by carrying out a midterm review.
- (viii) Continue harmonization with other relevant donor-assisted grant fund.

NPRS FUND/PRF PROJECT PROCESSING STEPS

Steps	Detailed Activities	Responsible Party	Indicative Processing Time (in weeks)																									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13-20	21	22	23	24	25	26	from here onwards						
Concept Development	1	Initial discussion among the Government, NGO, and other stakeholders (mostly in the context of project financing, economic and sector work activities, and CSPs).	Operational Division, Stakeholders	█	█																							
	2	Project officer discusses NPRS Fund/PRF concept informally with RSPR and others.	Project Officer, NPRS Fund/PRF Coordinator, others			█																						
	3	NPRS Fund/PRF coordinator organizes peer review meeting in collaboration with the project officer.	Project Development and Peer Review Team (first				█																					
	4	Project officer submits draft concept paper through his/her director to NPRS Fund/PRF coordinator (using NPRS Fund/PRF concept paper format).	Project Officer through Regional Director					█																				
Prioritization and Donor Endorsement	5A	Projects are discussed and prioritized in half-yearly Strategy Meetings with donors.	Team discussion in Strategy Meeting with donors																									
	5B	Additional projects can be submitted to the donors throughout the year.																										
	6	Strategy Meeting recommends proposal for project financing. Donor informs RSPR accordingly.																										
	7	RSPR informs project officer about donor endorsement for financing (copy to Office of Cofinancing Operations); the memo includes recommendations and comments from the donors.	NPRS Fund/PRF Coordinator																									
	8	Project record creation in Project Processing Information System																										
	9	Listing in <i>ADB Business Opportunities</i>																										
10	Projects can now be reflected in CSP or CSP Updates. If too late, ADB Concept Note to be prepared and submitted to respective Vice President for clearance.	Project Officer																										
ADB TA Approval	Internal Process	11	Project officer (with the help of NPRS Fund/PRF coordinator) prepares memo for mission cost sharing through the NPRS/PRF administrative budget.	Project Officer																								
		12	RSPR approves NPRS Fund/PRF mission budget	NPRS Fund/PRF coordinator (through Director, RSPR)																								
		13	Project officer conducts fact-finding mission, including donor and participatory stakeholder dialogue in the field ^a	Project Officer (eventually with Team)																								a
	14	Signing of memorandum of understanding with the Government	Government																									
	Fact-Finding Mission	15	Back-to-office report	Project Officer through Regional Director																								
		16	Project officer prepares draft TA paper	Project Officer (with support from RSPR)																								
		17	Interdepartmental comments	Various Departments																								
		18	Project officer submits technical assistance paper, through ADB process, for ADB approval	Project Officer																								
		19	ADB approval	Vice President, President, or Board of Directors																								
		Implementation	Project Officer and Project Implementation Team																									

ADB = Asian Development Bank; CSP = country strategy and program; NGO = nongovernment organization; NPRS = Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies; PRF = Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund; RSPR = Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division, Regional and Sustainable Development Department; TA = technical assistance

a About two weeks within 13th-20th week.

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF FINANCING BY DFID (As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Donor Endorsement Date	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
A. Projects Completed									
MKRD	CAM	Engagement of a Poverty Consultant at the Cambodia Resident Mission	15,000	C. Ouch	CARM	Jul-02	30-Oct-02	3955	
PARD	SUB-REG	Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis	50,000	S. Pollard	PAHQ	Jul-02	31-Oct-02	6061	
	2	Sub-total	\$65,000						
B. Projects Under Implementation (PRC)									
ECRD	PRC	Fighting Poverty through HIV/AIDS on Road Projects in Yunnan Province	800,000	T. Yasukawa	ECSS	Jul-02	14-Jul-03	4142	
ECRD	PRC	Fund for Strategic Policy Conferences and Studies for Poverty Reduction	400,000	D. Sobel	PRCM	Aug-03	21-Oct-03	4200	
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Reduction in Key Forestry Conservation Programs	400,000	T. Qadri	ECAE	Aug-03	19-Dec-03	4307	
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Reduction in Grassland Improvement Program	400,000	T. Qadri	ECAE	Aug-03	19-Dec-03	4308	
ECRD	PRC	Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation for the Rural Poor	400,000	P. Wallum/ C. Spohr	ECSS	Aug-03	13-Nov-03	4215	
ECRD	PRC	Policy Study on Poverty Reduction Strategy-Trends, Challenges and Future Directions	150,000	L. Adriano	ECAE	Aug-03	20-Nov-03	4222	
ECRD	PRC	Capacity Strengthening of PRC's National Development Planning Process	360,000	M. Colette/ H. Oh	C. RSGR/ ECGF	Aug-03	15-Dec-03	4298	
	7	Sub-total	2,910,000						
C. Projects Under Implementation (Headquarters)									
MKRD	CAM	Sustainable Employment Promotion for Poor Women	400,000	P. Chang	MKSS	Jul-02	24-Oct-02	3947	
MKRD	CAM	Preventing Poverty and Empowering Female Garment Workers Affected by the Changing International Trade Environment	500,000	L. Ding	MKGF	Dec-02	20-Jun-03	4131	
MKRD	CAM	Participatory Poverty Study of the Tonle Sap Basin	250,000	M. Mitra	MKAE	Dec-02	17-Dec-03	4283	

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PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF FINANCING BY DFID (As of 31 December 2003) - Continued

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Donor Endorsement Date	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
MKRD	CAM	Engagement of a Poverty Consultant at the Cambodia Resident Mission (Extension)	63,500	C. Ouch	CARM	Jul-03	16-Dec-03	3955	TASF \$18,000; NPRS \$31,500
MKRD	LAO	Integrating the Poor in Regional Trade through Standard-Setting for Private Sector Development (Phase 1)	150,000	M. Varkay	MKGF	Jul-02	9-May-03	4108	
MKRD	LAO	Social Protection in the Lao PDR: Issues and Options	150,000	E. Bloom	MKSS	Jul-02	4-Dec-02	4009	
MKRD	VIE	Transport Services Networks for the Poor	350,000	C. Litwin	MKID	Jul-02	11-Dec-02	4028	
MKRD	VIE	Early Childhood Development for the Poor	450,000	E. Bloom	MKSS	Dec-02	24-Oct-03	4205	
MKRD	VIE	Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Vietnam	73,000	R. Adhikari	VRM	Jul-03	12-Dec-03	4252	TASF \$15,000; NPRS \$37,000
MKRD	VIE	Developing Social Security System in Viet Nam	750,000	S. Hattori	MKGF	Jul-03	18-Dec-03	4276	
MKRD	SUB-REG	Poverty Reduction in Upland Communities in the Mekong Region through Improved Community and Industrial Forestry	800,000	J. Mir	MKAE	Jul-02	4-Aug-03	6115	
MKRD	SUB-REG	Promoting NGO Support for Poverty Alleviation in the GMS Subregion (Phase 1)	150,000	H. Mishra	NGOC	Dec-02	22-Aug-03	6118	
PARD	SUB-REG	Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific	400,000	M. Prokop	PAHQ	Dec-02	18-Dec-03	6157	NPRS \$400,000
SARD	BAN	Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation	350,000	H. Du/ Z. Hossain	BRM	Jul/Dec 02	19-Dec-03	4303	
SARD	PAK	Enhancing Capacity for Resource Management and Poverty Reduction in Punjab	230,000	N. Hamid	PRM	Jul-02	5-Dec-02	4015	
SARD	PAK	Supporting Poverty Reduction Initiatives in Pakistan	63,500	N. Hamid/S. Parvez	PRM	Jul-03	18-Dec-03	4277	TASF \$ 39,000; NPRS \$31,500
SARD	SRI	Community Information Services for the Poor	800,000	M. Sultana	SASS	Dec-02	9-May-03	4110	
REG	INTER-REG	Developing Tools for Assessing the Effectiveness of ADB Operations in Reducing Poverty	600,000	R. Hasan	ERDI	Jul-02	16-Dec-02	7073	

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PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF FINANCING BY DFID (As of 31 December 2003) - Continued

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Donor Endorsement Date	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
REG	INTER-REG	Fifth Agriculture and Natural Research at CGIAR Centers--Breeding Iron-Rich Rice to Reduce Iron-Deficiency Anemia in Asia (Suppl.)	905,000	L. Studdert	RSAN	Jul-02	23-Feb-03	5945	
REG	INTER-REG	NGO Partnerships for Poverty Reduction	500,000	G. Curtis	NGOC	Dec-02	27-May-03	6109	
REG	INTER-REG	Developing a Social Protection Index for Committed Poverty Reduction	300,000	A. Weber	SASS	Dec-02	27-Aug-03	6120	NPRS \$300,000
REG	INTER-REG	Study of Urban Violence in the Public Realm: Towards Safer Cities (CAM/BAN)	150,000	J. Hakim	MKSS	Jul-03	30-Oct-03	6130	
	22	Sub-total	\$8,385,000						
D. Projects Being Processed (PRC)									
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Impact of Areawide Road Networks	1,000,000	K. Jraiw	ECTC	Dec-02	28-Feb-04	-	
ECRD	PRC	Empowerment of the Poor on the Road Development in Shaanxi Province	500,000	N. Toba	ECTC	Aug-03	28-Feb-04	-	
ECRD	PRC	Developing Poverty Impact Indicators and Assessment Methodology for ADB	300,000	A. Asra	ERDI	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Farmer Income and Sustainable	900,000	B. Carrad	PRCM	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Heating Supply for Urban Poor in Liaoning Province	500,000	Bo Lin	ECEN	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Impact of Closure of Coal Mines in Poverty Areas and Options for Job Creation	300,000	E. Hassing	ECEN	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Pilot Mapping of the Distribution of Multidimensional Poverty by Counties in Guangxi	320,000	D. Sobel	PRCM	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Reduction in Coal Mine Areas	500,000	E. Hassing	ECEN	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Statistics & Monitoring at/below County Level	400,000	-	-	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	PRC Urban Poverty Strategy Study	300,000	-	-	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Provincial Development Strategy Study (Western Region)	500,000	-	-	Aug-03	2004	-	

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PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF FINANCING BY DFID (As of 31 December 2003) - Continued

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Donor Endorsement Date	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
ECRD	PRC	Rural Development in Mountainous Areas in Southern Ningxia	500,000	E. Kwon	ECTC	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Special Breed Wild Pig Development in Enshi, Hubei Province	1,000,000	-	-	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Study on Public Financial Emergencies and Ways to Justify Capital Management in Poverty-stricken Areas	200,000	-	-	Aug-03	2004	-	
	14	Sub-total	7,220,000						
E. Projects Being Processed (Headquarters)									
MKRD	LAO	Marketing Support of Organic Produce of Ethnic Minorities	600,000	M. Katagami	MKAE	Dec-02	15-Mar-04	-	
MKRD	LAO	Integrating the Poor in Regional Trade through Standard-Setting for Private Sector Development (Phase 2)	700,000	M. Varkay	MKGF	Jul-03	28-Feb-04	-	
MKRD	LAO	The Extent and impacts of Gender Inequality in Women's Access to Land, Forests and Water Resources on Poverty Reduction in Lao PDR	250,000	M. Mitra	MKAE	Jul-03	28-Feb-04	-	
MKRD	VIE	Support for Pro-poor Health Policies in Viet Nam	500,000	I. Bhushan	MKSS	Jul-03	15-Mar-04	-	
MKRD	SUB-REG	Delivering Energy Service for the Poor -- Learning from the Mekong	600,000	C. Litwin	MKID	Dec-02	28-Feb-04	-	
MKRD	SUB-REG	Promoting Safe Migration for Women and Prevention of Trafficking of Girls and Women in the GMS	700,000	M. Mitra	MKAE	Jul-03	28-Feb-04	-	
PARD	SUB-REG	Making Resource Allocation Pro-poor and Participatory in the Pacific	500,000	T. Mellor and M. Prokop	PAHQ	Jul-03	28-Feb-04	-	
SARD	BAN	Social Protection of Poor Female Workers in the Garment Sector in the Context of Changing Trade Environment	420,000	A. Weber	SASS	Jul/Dec 02	31-Mar-04	-	
SARD	NEP	Promoting Pro-poor and Gender Responsive Local Governance	200,000	A. Shrestha	NRM	Jul-03	15-Mar-04	-	

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PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF FINANCING BY DFID (As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Donor Endorsement Date	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
SARD	PAK	Determinants and Drivers of Poverty Reduction and ADB's Contribution in Rural Pakistan	400,000	N. Hamid/ S. Parvez	PRM	Dec-02	15-Feb-04	-	Amount increase by \$100,000 endorsed on 20 Nov 03
REG	INTER-REG	Pilot Project on Institutionalizing Civil Society Participation to Create Local Pro-Poor Budgets	400,000	J. Brommelhorster	RSGR	Dec-02	31-Jan-04	-	
REG	INTER-REG	Building Capacity for Participatory Approaches to Poverty Reduction in ADB Operation	300,000	A. Sweetser	RSPR	Jul-03	15-Feb-04	-	NPRS \$300,000
REG	INTER-REG	Social Health Insurance in Asia and the Pacific: Lessons Learned and Prospects	200,000 *	K. Saleh	ECSS	Jul-03	28-Feb-04	-	
	13	Sub-total	\$5,770,000						
	58	Grand Total	\$24,350,000						

BAN = Bangladesh, BRM = Bangladesh Resident Mission, CAM = Cambodia, CARM = Cambodia Resident Mission, ECAE = East and Central Asia Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division, ECEN = East and Central Asia Energy Division, ECGF = East and Central Asia Government, Finance and Trade Division, ECRD = East and Central Asia Department, ECSS = East and Central Asia Social Sectors Division, ECTC = East and Central Asia Transportation and Communications Division, ERDI = Development Indicators and Policy Research Division, INTERREG = Inter Regional, LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic, MKAE = Mekong Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division, MKGF = Mekong Finance and Trade Division, MKID = Mekong Infrastructure Division, MKRD = Mekong Department, MKSS = Mekong Social Sectors Division, NEP = Nepal, NGOC = NGO Center, NRM = Nepal Resident Mission, PAHQ = Pacific Operations Division, PRC = People's Republic of China, PRCM = People's Republic of China Resident Mission, PRM = Pakistan Resident Mission, RSAN = Agriculture, Natural Resources and Social Sectors Division, RSGR = Governance and Regional Cooperation, RSPR = Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division, SARD = South Asia Department, SASS = South Asia Social Sectors Division, SRI = Sri Lanka, SUBREG - Sub regional, VIE = Viet Nam, VRM = Viet Nam Resident Mission.

* Department for International Development (Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) agreed to increase the amount from \$200,000.00 to \$400,000.00 in February 2004

DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
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A. Projects Completed

MKRD	CAM	3955	Engagement of a Poverty Consultant at the Cambodia Resident Mission (Initial Phase)	CARM	15,000	Jul-02	30-Oct-02	Support for Cambodia Resident Mission through a poverty consultant, in mainstreaming strategic poverty focus in the various TAs, loans, the country strategy and program updates, and country strategy and programs. Said consultant also helped ADB missions in poverty assessments, networking with NGOs on poverty-related matters and liaised with development partners especially on the finalization of the national poverty reduction strategy, 2003-2005.	Completed. 6 months of domestic consultant support provided (i) support to the process of formulating the country's national poverty reduction strategy; (ii) operational support to ADB staff in mainstreaming poverty concerns in projects; and (iii) increased dialogue between ADB and key country stakeholders including NGOs related to poverty issues. Building upon the successful initial phase, 2 years of extension was approved in December 2003 (see "Projects Under Implementation; CAM TA 3955").
PARD	SUB-REG	6061	Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis	PAHQ	50,000	Jul-02	31-Oct-02	A small-scale study to assess the feasibility of establishing a Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis that will provide a framework for more effective and efficient international assistance to the region for institutional capacity building and the analysis and dissemination of poverty data.	Completed. Consultants recruited in November 2002. Implemented from late 2002 to early 2003 in collaboration with the NZAID. A final draft report was prepared and presented in Fiji Islands in March 2003 at the regional millennium development goals (MDG) workshop, high-level poverty forum. Further comments were sought throughout the region and the final report was presented in September 2003. This resulted in another PRF/NPRS-financed regional TA 6157 (See "Projects under Implementation").
Sub total					65,000				

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
B. Projects Under Implementation - People's Republic of China									
ECRD	PRC	4142	Fighting Poverty through HIV/AIDS on Road Projects in Yunnan Province	ECSS	800,000	Jul-02	14-Jul-03	Pilot project to prevent and reduce the risk of transmission of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infectious diseases that may result from an ADB-financed Road Project.	Implementation delayed initially but now on track. Even though government approval was obtained prior to ADB approval, the government required further clarification before signing the TA letter. A consultation mission was carried out in October 2003, and a consensus on detailed arrangements was finally obtained. The Ministry of Finance signed the TA letter of agreement on 13 November 2003 and the letter was forwarded to ADB. The future pace of implementation will depend on that of the loan schedule.
ECRD	PRC	4200	Fund for Strategic Policy Conferences and Studies for Poverty Reduction	PRCM	400,000	Aug-03	21-Oct-03	An umbrella fund to support strategically important conferences, workshops, seminars, and research related to poverty reduction.	Implementation on schedule after fast processing. No consultant recruitment is expected unless for exceptional cases. Fund application form has been finalized and agreed to by EA (Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development) and PRCM. One proposal has already been submitted and appraised by PRCM; awaiting EA approval. Letter for advance fund to EA is being prepared.
ECRD	PRC	4215	Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation for the Rural Poor	ECSS	400,000	Aug-03	12-Nov-03	Policy study to prepare pro-poor RWSS policies, and provide for a strategic investment framework for integrated and pro-poor RWSS, focused on defining viable models for financing sustainable pro-poor RWSS systems.	Implementation on schedule. Consultants were short-listed and invited to submit technical proposals on 10 Dec 2003.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT -Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
ECRD	PRC	4222	Policy Study on Poverty Reduction Strategy- Trends, Challenges and Future Directions	ECAE	150,000	Aug-03	20-Nov-03	Policy study that will influence a longer-term poverty reduction strategy for the country. Emerging issues such as rural-urban migration and impacts of economic transition will be addressed.	Implementation on schedule. Expected completion date is 31 May 2004. Six individual domestic consultants are engaged from 1 December 2003 to 31 May 2004 for a total of 17.5 person-months. The preliminary findings of the study are expected to be presented at the Scaling Up Poverty Reduction Conference scheduled in Shanghai in May 2004.
ECRD	PRC	4298	Capacity Strengthening of PRC's National Development Planning Process	RSGR/ ECGF	360,000	Aug-03	19-Dec-03	Capacity-building support for the National Development Reform Commission to improve the process of drafting the 11th Five-Year Plan and subsequent five year plans in a more participatory manner consistent with international best practices and to develop a more poverty-focused 5-year plan.	Just approved. Consultant selection on schedule.
ECRD	PRC	4307	Poverty Reduction in Key Forestry Conservation Programs	ECAE	400,000	Aug-03	19-Dec-03	Policy study to comprehensively assess the overall impacts of some of the key forestry conservation programs on the livelihoods of the poor and to provide recommendations for a revised policy and program framework that will encourage cost-effectiveness and sustainable livelihoods of the poor.	Jus approved. Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place on February 2004.
ECRD	PRC	4308	Poverty Reduction in Grassland Improvement Program	ECAE	400,000	Aug-03	19-Dec-03	Policy study to assess the overall impacts of the grassland improvement program and make policy framework and investment plans that will encourage positive impacts on poverty reduction.	Just approved. Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place on February 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
C. Projects Under Implementation - Headquarters									
MKRD	CAM	3947	Sustainable Employment Promotion for Poor Women	MKSS	400,000	Jul-02	24-Oct-02	Capacity building for the economic empowerment of disadvantaged women in the rural areas, especially the poor, widows, single parents, working women and migrants, and to strengthen the capacity of MOWVA to manage its mandate of gender mainstreaming at the provincial and commune levels.	Implementation on schedule. TA letter was signed on 17 December 2002. There were some delays due to the elections, but the key components are being carried out on time.
MKRD	CAM	3955	Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Cambodia (Extended Phase)	CARM	63,500	Jul-03	16-Dec-03	Capacity-building support to the country through an RM poverty consultant for 2 years. The assistance will cover policy, sector, and project levels as well as policy dialogue with the government, civil society, private sector, and development partners.	Just approved. Cofinanced by ADB TA program (TASF) \$18,000; NPRS \$31,500. It builds on the successful initial phase of 6 months (financed by PRF) which effectively increased the RM's capacity to assist in the national poverty reduction strategy formulation process.
MKRD	CAM	4131	Preventing Poverty and Empowering Female Garment Workers Affected by the Changing International Trade Environment	MKGF	500,000	Dec-02	20-Jun-03	Assessment of the potential downside risks caused by phasing out quota restrictions on textile and clothing on poor female workers and the Cambodian economy, and carry out small-scale pilot subprojects on labor market and social protection to identify effective ways to address the impacts. It will build formal and informal safety nets and establish links with alternative employment opportunities.	Implementation on schedule. Inception mission was fielded on 31 October-6 November. The team of three consultants commenced work in October 2003.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
MKRD	CAM	4283	Participatory Poverty Study of the Tonle Sap Basin	MKAE	250,000	Dec-02	17-Dec-03	Participatory poverty assessment to identify the nature and causes of poverty and vulnerability in the Tonle Sap basin, leading to a better understanding of the needs and priorities of different socio-economic groups. It will help to identify the types of livelihood-related interventions required for poverty reduction, the appropriate entry points for such activities and the types of capacity building needed to promote community based natural resource management. The findings will feed into ADB's future programs.	Just approved.
MKRD	LAO	4108	Integrating the Poor in Regional Trade Through Standard-Setting for Private Sector Development (Phase 1)	MKGF	150,000	Jul-02	9-May-03	Assistance to the government in streamlining and upgrading the standards and regulatory framework in the context of the WTO; and provision of consistent training in industry standards skills development for silk producers to reduce poverty through improved access to international product market.	Implementation, on schedule. Bulk of work completed. Final report was submitted by TA consultants on 31 October 2003. The final workshop and training material is to be implemented and completed by 15 January 2004. A successful Phase 1 resulted in a more expanded Phase 2, which is now under preparation.
MKRD	LAO	4009	Social Protection in the Lao PDR: Issues and Options	MKSS	150,000	Jul-02	4-Dec-02	Comprehensive country-level assessment of key social protection issues. It will also provide for potential program options for the country.	Implementation on schedule. Consultants were recruited in September 2003. Inception is expected in January 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
MKRD	SUB-REG	6115	Poverty Alleviation in Upland Communities in the Mekong Region through Improved Community and Industrial Forestry	MKAE	800,000	Jul-02	4-Aug-03	Assessment of the likely impacts of the changing forest industry and investment structure, and the impacts of regional forest product trade patterns on the profitability and sustainability of community and industrial forestry. The TA will focus on Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam, especially in provinces that have high incidence of poverty and high dependency on forest and their products. It will explicitly focus on the impacts of the changing development environment on poor ethnic minorities and women.	Processing and start-up of implementation slightly delayed, which was necessary in building consensus on the implementation arrangements and the TA approaches with other partners, including the Center for International Forestry Research, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Regional Office for Asia, and World Conservation Union in Bangkok. After the agreements were made, the implementation has been smooth.
MKRD	SUB-REG	6118	Promoting NGO Support for Poverty Alleviation in the GMS Subregion (Phase 1)	NGOC	150,000	Dec-02	22-Aug-03	Support to a participatory process. It will establish and institutionalize ADB-Government-NGO tripartite partnership through the formulation and implementation of a GMS Regional Cooperation Strategy and Program (RCSP) for 2004. Active civil society participation is especially encouraged.	Implementation on schedule. The consultant (World Vision Australia) was recruited in November 2003 and submitted the inception report in mid-December 2003. The 1st Focus Group meeting is scheduled on 19 January 2004 in Thailand, to be followed by the first ADB-Governments-NGOs tripartite meeting to discuss the draft RCSP on 27-28 January 2004. The TA is scheduled to be completed in end June 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
MKRD	VIE	4252	Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Viet Nam	VRM	73,000	Jul-03	19-Dec-03	Capacity-building support to the country through an RM poverty consultant for 2 years. The TA will especially focus on monitoring the implementation of the Poverty Partnership Agreement, and accelerate various sector and/or thematic work to identify future poverty projects, as well as to strengthen coordination and consultation with key stakeholders.	Just approved. Cofinanced by TASF \$15,000; NPRS \$37,000.
MKRD	VIE	4028	Transport Services Networks for the Poor	MKID	350,000	Jul-02	11-Dec-02	Study to identify the likely factors and conditions that determine the level of benefits of road networks development that accrued to the poor and to develop and pilot-test a methodology for prioritizing and designing transport investments from a network perspective to ensure that the poor can benefit from road investments.	Implementation delayed. TA consultants were expected to be fielded in April 2003 but delayed due to SARs and other work commitments of staff. Consultants were fielded on site by 15 August 2003. An ADB inception mission was fielded on 15-19 Aug during which the two pilot provinces in the Central Region were selected, i.e., Nghe An and Ninh Tuan Thuan. Although the inception report was submitted by the team leader to ADB in mid-October 2003, the Midterm report, due originally in mid-October 2003, was not submitted. Replacement of the team leader is being negotiated with the consulting firm.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
MKRD	VIE	4205	Early Childhood Development for the Poor	MKSS	450,000	Dec-02	24-Oct-03	Policy study on early childhood development with a view to develop a potential loan project. The TA will improve understanding of the health, nutrition, child care, and education needs of children from poor and vulnerable households and make recommendations for policies and programs.	Processing and the start-up of implementation were delayed due to the SARS outbreak and a thorough approval process within the Government of Viet Nam. The EA is keen to begin activities now that the TA letter was signed in early December 2003. Consultants' recruitment is expected to be finalized in January 2004. Inception is expected in February 2004.
MKRD	VIE	4276	Developing a Social Security System in Viet Nam	MKGF	750,000	Jul-03	18-Dec-03	Policy study to help develop a sustainable social security system in Viet Nam with expanded coverage, involving (i) a study on informal sector's involvement in the social security system, (ii) preparation of a draft social security law, and (iii) administrative redesign of Viet Nam Security System.	Just approved. Fact-Finding Mission was carried out on 16-20 Jun 2003, and a Follow-Up Mission in September 2003. TA processing, though on track, took longer than expected due to the slow government screening process in the country.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
PARD	SUB-REG	6157	Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific	PAHQ	400,000	Dec-02	18-Dec-03	A range of capacity-building initiatives in selected Pacific DMCs, including (i) data collection, analysis, and dissemination; (ii) participatory policy development; and (iii) monitoring of poverty impacts of policies and programs.	Just approved. Cofinanced by the NPRS at \$400,000. Expected to commence in March 2004. Processing was slightly delayed to allow extensive consultation process involving stakeholders in the Pacific Island countries, development partners, and regional institutions. TA preparatory activities were carried out under TA 6061 (financed by the PRF), including workshops and/or meetings in Nadi, Fiji (March 2003), Sydney (July 2003), and Noumea, New Caledonia (September 2003), during which time the agreement was made that the original idea of the 'Pacific Fund' would be replaced with a "Program" under which a series of capacity-building initiatives would be supported. Donors such as AusAID, NZAID, and WB requested ADB to take the lead in this initiative.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
REG	INTER-REG	6073	Developing Tools for Assessing the Effectiveness of ADB Operations in Reducing Poverty	ERDI	600,000	Jul-02	16-Dec-02	Development and pilot testing of quantitative methodologies that would measure the underlying factors and mechanisms driving changes in the incidence and severity of poverty. The TA includes People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Viet Nam.	Implementation delayed due to various factors including (i) delays in obtaining government concurrence from all TA countries; (ii) difficulties in finding and contracting appropriate, high-quality consultants; (iii) emergence of recent research findings that required modifications to the planned activities of the TA to avoid duplication and ensure that the TA activities have high value-added; and (iv) turnover of project officers. With most preparatory work completed in 2003, implementation is expected to be back on track in 2004.
REG	INTER-REG	5945	Improving Nutrition of Poor Women and Children in Asia – rice breeding to reduce anemia (Fifth Agriculture and Natural Research at CGIAR Centers, Breeding Iron-Rich Rice to Reduce Iron Deficiency Anemia in Asia)	RSAN	905,000	Jul-02	23-Feb-03	Agronomic research and human nutrition efficacy trials to increase the iron content of rice seed and iron bio-availability from rice consumption, with the end view of eliminating micronutrient malnutrition in Asia.	Implementation delayed, primarily because the key implementing partner, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), has diverted some of its attention to pursuing additional funding for a larger biofortification project of which the ADB-funded components are now part. Plans are being finalized to initiate a pilot project in the first half of 2004 to test some of the key assumptions that will underlie the larger trial. Screening of rice varieties has also started but the process has been slower than expected. The TA closing date has been extended by 12 months. Now that all the necessary modifications and preparations are done, implementation in 2004 is expected to be smoother.

Continued on next page

DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
REG	INTER-REG	6109	NGO Partnerships for Poverty Reduction	NGOC	500,000	Dec-02	27-May-03	Umbrella fund to a limited number of nongovernment organizations in Group A and B developing member countries to undertake innovative poverty reduction or other activities in key ADB sectors as identified through approved country strategy and program documents	Implementation on schedule. As of end 2003, the Governments of Bangladesh, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, and Nepal had provided formal concurrence to be included in the RETA. In November 2003, the NGO and Civil Society Thematic Committee reviewed the first batch of NGO proposals screened and recommended by RM-level review committees. The Committee approved 18 projects (from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal) totaling \$216,000. Additional project proposals had been received from Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, and Kyrgyz Republic, and screening of NGOs project submission was underway in both PRC and Cambodia. Due to high demand, additional funding was being sought as of end-2003.
REG	INTER-REG	6120	Developing a Social Protection Index for Committed Poverty Reduction	SASS	300,000	Dec-02	27-Aug-03	Develop social protection index to enable monitoring of policies and implementation of programs related to the sector.	Implementation on track. Cofinanced by NPRS at \$300,000; Consultants were selected. Contract negotiation expected 15 January 04.
REG	INTER-REG	6130	Study of Urban Violence in the Public Realm: Toward Safer Cities (CAM and BAN)	MKSS and SASS	150,000	Jul-03	30-Oct-03	Study of the magnitude, trends, types, and nature of urban violence, the ways and means to prevent urban violence and promote safety; and develop a conceptual framework for assessing and addressing the multidimensional aspects of urban violence in Asia.	Implementation on track. Consultant selection is being carried out for the scheduled TA commencement in mid-February 2004.

Continued on next page

DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
SARD	BAN	4303	Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation	RSGR and BRM	350,000	Jul/Dec 02	19-Dec-03	Institutional capacity-building support for monitoring and analyzing poverty trends, and evaluation of national poverty reduction programs and efforts	Just approved, after major delays in processing due primarily to the need to coordinate the interests and activities with other donors.
SARD	PAK	4015	Enhancing Capacity for Resource Management and Poverty Reduction in Punjab	SARD	230,000	Jul-02	5-Dec-02	Support the completion and implementation of the poverty reduction strategy paper, and poverty reduction action plans at the district level; as well as assist in developing needed systems and modalities for enhanced effectiveness of public expenditures and increased resource mobilization.	Implementation slightly behind schedule, due to (i) the need to change terms of reference after identification of emerging issues in April 2003 (at the time of loan fact-finding mission for Punjab Resources Management Program Loan); (ii) the need to solicit the views of government and DFID at every stage of processing and consultant selection; (iii) limited human power available at the Pakistan RM. The Project coordinator was hired in July 2003. Consultants were recruited in December 2003.
SARD	PAK	4277	Support for Poverty Reduction Initiatives in Pakistan	PRM	63,500	Jul-03	18-Dec-03	Capacity-building support to the country through a RM poverty consultant for 2 years. The TA will especially focus on monitoring the implementation of PRSP and provincial-level plans as well as reviewing and helping develop new programs on poverty reduction. This would help Pakistan RM serve as a knowledge node on poverty in the country.	Just approved. Cofinanced by TASF \$39,000; NPRS \$31,500.

Continued on next page

DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT -Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
SARD	SRI	4110	Community Information Services for the Poor	SARD	800,000	Dec-02	9-May-03	Pilot testing of community information networks in two districts among district offices, schools, training institutes, job placement centers, hospitals, markets, private companies, and villages, to share vital information to improve the livelihoods and social welfare of the poor, using cost-effective and feasible communication modes.	Implementation on time. Consultant was recruited in Sept 2003. Inception meeting was carried out in early October 2003, with the inception report submitted to ADB in late October 2003.
Sub total					11,295,000				
D. Projects Being Processed - People's Republic of China									
ECRD	PRC		Poverty Impact of Areawide Road Networks	ECTC	1,000,000	Dec-02	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Help the Government prepare an integrated road network strategy and assist road agencies with improved planning, implementation and operational skills required to ensure pro-poor impacts.	Fact-finding mission was held on 14-17 July 2003. Revised TA paper was circulated and submitted to the Management for approval in December 2003.
ECRD	PRC		Pilot Mapping of the Distribution of Multidimensional Poverty by Counties in Guangxi	PRCM	320,000	Aug-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Pilot-test the poverty mapping methodology developed under TA 3610 in the poorest counties in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and other poor provinces to be selected.	Processing postponed. A request was made to process this as a supplementary TA to TA 3610. The request was rejected internally in ADB. The project is awaiting government's signal as to whether we should process this as a full-blown TA or not. This is now awaiting the government's confirmation (a decision was made in early 2004 to drop it from 2004 program).

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
ECRD	PRC		Empowerment of the Poor on the Road Development in Shaanxi Province	ECTC	500,000	Aug-03	Q2 2004 (Expected)	Capacity-building and pilot project on skills development and other training for the poor along the Shaanxi Road Development Project to ensure the poor will be empowered to take advantage of the market access and other opportunities provided by the road access.	Processing slightly delayed. In early December 2003, a fact-finding mission was undertaken. A draft TA paper is scheduled to be circulated on the 3rd week of January. Scheduled approval is May 2004.
ECRD	PRC		Developing Poverty Impact Indicators and Assessment Methodology for ADB Operations	ERDI	300,000	Aug-03	2004	Develop quantitative and qualitative methodologies to assess poverty reduction impact of ADB-assisted operations.	To be processed in 2004. Fact-finding mission is expected in May 2004 and expected approval is August 2004.
ECRD	PRC		Study on Public Financial Emergencies and Ways to Justify Capital Management in Poverty-stricken Areas	ECGF	200,000	Aug-03	2004	Study to analyze the actual influences of the fiscal reform of tax sharing in 1994 on distressed areas and give recommendations for establishing and improving a standard financial transfer payment and strengthening fiscal capacity.	To be processed in 2004. A fact finding mission is scheduled on 14-26 March 2004. Expected approval is on May 2004. (A decision was made in early 2004 to drop it from the 2004 program.)
ECRD	PRC		Farmer Income and Sustainable Development	ECAE	900,000	Aug-03	2004	This project is to adjust agricultural structure and release farmers from poverty.	To be processed in 2004. Fact-finding planned in May 2004.
ECRD	PRC		Heating Supply for Urban Poor in Liaoning Province	ECEN	500,000	Aug-03	Q3 2004 (Expected)	Support for the provincial government to reform the urban heat supply sector and formulate a heat supply strategy that will provide maximum benefits to the urban poor.	To be processed in 2004. Fact-finding planned in April 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
ECRD	PRC		Impact of Closure Coal Mines in Poverty Areas and Options for Job Creation	ECEN	300,000	Aug-03	2004	Research and data collection in all coal mining areas to obtain relevant information about coal resources and reserves, and those with declining coal resources. Impact analysis of coal mine closures impact on the development of local economy, local supply of energy, protection and rehabilitation of the environment following abandonment of the coal mines, employment and social stability, poverty incidence, and poverty reduction options.	To be processed in 2004
ECRD	PRC		Poverty Reduction in Coal Mine Areas	ECEN	500,000	Aug-03	2004		To be processed in 2004. Fact-finding planned in June 2004.
ECRD	PRC		Poverty Statistics & Monitoring at below County Level		400,000	Aug-03	2004	Capacity-building support for the improvement of National Bureau of Statistics' ability to provide statistics related to multi-dimensional poverty by small area.	To be processed in 2004 (A decision was made in early 2004 to drop it from the 2004 Program.)
ECRD	PRC		PRC Urban Poverty Strategy Study	ECSS	300,000	Aug-03	2004	Support for policy makers and urban managers in strategic planning for economic development.	Standby in 2004
ECRD	PRC		Provincial Development Strategy Study	PRCM	500,000	Aug-03	2004		Standby in 2004
ECRD	PRC		Rural Development in Mountainous Areas in Southern Ningxia	MKAE	500,000	Aug-03	2005	Capacity-building support to local farmers through training in animal raising and economic crop cultivation.	To be processed in 2005
ECRD	PRC		Special Breed Wild Pig Development in Enshi, Hubei Province	MKTC	1,000,000	Aug-03	2004		To be processed in 2004 (A decision was made in early 2004 to drop it.)
Sub total					7,220,000				

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
C. Projects Being Processed - Headquarters									
MKRD	LAO		Marketing Support for Organic Produce of Ethnic Minorities	MKAE	600,000	Dec-02	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Pilot testing of linking agro-forestry and handicraft products produced among poor ethnic minorities with the domestic market and the international fair trade market. The TA seeks to establish handicraft trade groups; develop trade linkages; identify alternative markets for agro-forestry products, improved post-harvest processing facilities, and provide marketing support.	Processing delayed due to conflict in work schedules of the project officer. Fact-finding mission was undertaken on 04-12 December 2003. TA paper was circulated in ADB on 26 December 2003.
MKRD	LAO		Integrating the Poor in Regional Trade through Standard-Setting for Private Sector Development (Phase 2)	MKGF	700,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Phase II of TA 4108 (PRF-funded), which has created partnerships between silk producing areas and cooperatives to disseminate information on the implementation of standard skills training to producers in poor communities. Phase II will expand the scope to support the development of pro-poor industrial standards in the area of agro-industry, pilot-testing with poor communities and cooperatives, and streamlining the standard regulatory framework.	Processing on schedule. It builds on the successful training and partnership development programs across the silk production chain, including poor producers. A request has been made for rapid fielding of consultants to minimize the time interval between phase 1 (completed by 15 January 2004) and the inception of phase 2.
MKRD	LAO		The Extent and Impacts of Gender Inequality in Women's Access to Land, Forests and Water Resources on Poverty Reduction in Lao PDR	MKAE	250,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Combination of research and capacity building involving a comprehensive analysis of gender issues in terms of women's rights and access to land, forest and water resources, extension and training, and the implications of their ability to improve livelihoods and reduce their poverty.	Processing on schedule. The TA is on schedule. Fact finding was carried out in November 2003. TA paper circulation is scheduled in late January 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
MKRD	SUB-REG		Delivering Energy Service for the Poor -- Learning from the Mekong	MKID	600,000	Dec-02	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Capacity-building in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam for enhanced targeting and effectiveness of service delivery in the power sector to the poor and to enhance the pro-poor aspects of investments in the sector. This includes a review of good practices in well-targeted off-grid and grid management systems from the GMS and elsewhere to examine the opportunities for scaling up successful interventions to deliver electricity services to the poor.	Processing on schedule. Fact-finding mission was carried out on 13-17 October 2003. A Staff Review Committee meeting was held in November 2003. Expected ADB approval is on February 2004.
MKRD	SUB-REG		Promoting Safe Migration for Women and Prevention of Trafficking of Girls and Women in the GMS	MKAE	700,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Capacity-building and pilot projects. The TA will (i) develop institutional awareness and capacity within ADB and in the DMCs of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam to address trafficking and related issues in regional projects in the GMS, and (ii) pilot-test project components in 2 ongoing ADB-financed cross-border projects (tourism and cross-border highway).	Processing on schedule. Fact finding has been carried out in the three DMCs in October-November 2003.
MKRD	VIE		Support for Pro-poor Health Policies in Viet Nam	MKSS	500,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Combination of policy research to improve the poverty focus of health financing and capacity building for implementing government decision to establish Health Care Fund for the poor at provincial levels.	Processing on schedule. The TA is due for approval on March 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
PARD	SUB-REG		Making Resource Allocation Pro-poor and Participatory in the Pacific	PAHQ	500,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Capacity-building of civil society, in particular women's and youth NGOs, to empower them to actively engage in resource allocation advocacy, and in monitoring budget execution and service delivery; and of government officials to enhance awareness of the benefits of a participatory approach toward resource allocation and budget monitoring, thereby encouraging governments to be more responsive to the people's needs and opening up the budget process to include civil society participation.	Processing on schedule. A fact-finding mission visited Fiji (24-27 November 2003) and Vanuatu (28 November-3 December 2003).
REG	INTER-REG		Pilot Project on Institutionalizing Civil Society Participation to Create Local Pro-Poor Budgets	RSGR	400,000	Jul-02	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Capacity-building and pilot project to create an enabling environment for participatory budgeting on the local government level by building on global best practices of civil society work. The TA will engage the poor and their representatives in preparing of budgets, which will lead to efficient, effective, and responsive pro-poor service delivery. The TA will be implemented in Indonesia, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.	Processing on schedule. The TA paper was circulated in ADB early December 2003 and comments incorporated. ADB approval is expected during the 1st quarter of 2004, and the fielding of consultants shall be done on March or April 2004.
REG	INTER-REG		Building Capacity for Participatory Approaches to Poverty Reduction in ADB Operations	RSPR	300,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Capacity-building for participatory pro-poor policy and strategy development and project planning and M&E. Teams comprising ADB-consultant-government-NGOs will be assisted.	Processing on time. Cofinanced by the NPRS at \$300,000. TA paper was circulated in December 2003. Preparatory work of introducing potential trainees to ADB successful and completed (Nov-Dec 2003). Expected ADB approval is March 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status
REG	INTER-REG		Social Health Insurance in Asia and the Pacific: Lessons Learned and Prospects	ECSS	200,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Comprehensive stocktaking of the institutional aspects, good practices, lessons learned, and enabling factors to promote pro-poor health care financing in the Asian and Pacific region. It will be carried out in 16 Asian countries with varying degrees of analysis: Australia, PRC, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Rep of Korea, Kyrgyz Rep, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam.	Processing slightly delayed, due to the turnover of the project officer and the need to synchronize with activities carried out by the two regional offices of the World Health Organization. An increase in funding is being requested, from \$200,000 to \$400,000.
SARD	BAN		Social Protection of Poor Female Workers in the Garment Sector in the Context of Changing Trade Environment	SASS	420,000	Jul/Dec 02	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Combination of strategy development and pilot projects, including (i) developing a human development strategy for the female garment workers to cope with potential risks caused by the quota restrictions on the garment industry, and (ii) small-scale pilot projects to build safety nets against ongoing and upcoming changes, and facilitate re-employment of those retrenched. It is a parallel TA to CAM TA 4131, which commenced earlier.	Processing delayed because (i) the initially planned RETA was split into two projects (Bangladesh and Cambodia); and (ii) after the first fact finding mission in Feb 03, there was a long policy dialogue with the Government, which finally decided that the Ministry of Women should take the lead in the TA. The second fact-finding mission was carried out in late November-early December 2003. As soon as the Govt signs the MOU, a TA paper will be circulated and expect ADB approval in March 2004.

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DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF POVERTY REDUCTION FUND PROJECTS ENDORSED BY DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-Continued

(As of 31 December 2003)

Region	Country	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount (\$)	Donor	ADB	Project Description	Project Status
SARD	NEP		Promoting Pro-poor and Gender Responsive Local Governance	SAOC	200,000	Jul-03	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Capacity-building and pilot projects. It will pilot test a new methodology to improve the input of women and the poor in decision making and governance, by making local governance structures adopt approaches on policy planning and budgeting that are inclusive of gender and social equity goals; and building capacity of women's groups and civil society to forge strategic alliances for policy attention.	Processing slightly delayed. A fact finding mission to confirm the objective, scope and implementation is scheduled for early 2004.
SARD	PAK		Determinants and Drivers of Poverty Reduction and ADB's Contribution in Rural Pakistan	PRM	400,000	Dec-02	Q1 2004 (Expected)	Study to identify the major determinants of rural poverty and propose recommendations on public policy and project focus in designing interventions by the Government, ADB, and other donors and NGO RSPs for sustained reduction of rural poverty in Pakistan	Processing delayed, due primarily to limited staff resources in the Pakistan RM. The processing of the TA, which was earlier slow on account of lack of staff resources at Pakistan Resident Mission, picked up and the fact-finding mission for the TA was undertaken on 3-24 November 2003. The draft TA paper was circulated for interdepartmental comments on 28 November 2003, and ADB approval is expected in early 2004.
Sub total					5,770,000				
GRAND TOTAL					\$24,350,000				

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ADB = Asian Development Bank
AusAID = Australia Agency for International Development
BAN = Bangladesh
BRM = Bangladesh Resident Mission
CAM = Cambodia
CARM = Cambodia Resident Mission
CGIAR = Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
DFID = Department for International Development
DMCs = developing member countries
EA = Executing Agency
ECAE = East and Central Asia Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division
ECEN = East and Central Asia Energy Division
ECGF = East and Central Asia Government, Finance and Trade Division
ECD = East and Central Asia Department,
ECSS = East and Central Asia Social Sectors Division
ECTC = East and Central Asia Transportation and Communications Division
ERDI = Development Indicators and Policy Research Division
GMS = Greater Mekong Sub region
HIV/AIDS = Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
INTER REG - Inter regional,
LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic
MDG = millennium development goals
MKGF = Mekong Government, Finance and Trade Division
MKID = Mekong Infrastructure Division
MKRD = Mekong Department
MKSS = Mekong Social Sectors Division
MKTC = Mekong Transportation and Communications Division
MOWVA = Ministry of Women and Veterans' Affairs

NEP = Nepal
NZAID = New Zealand, Agency for International Development
NGO = nongovernment organization
NGOC = NGO Center
PAHQ = Pacific Operations Division
PAK = Pakistan
PARD = Pacific Department
PRC = People's Republic of China
PRCM = People's Republic of China Resident Mission
PRM = Pakistan Resident Mission
RCSP = Regional Cooperation Strategy and Program
REG = Regional
RETA = regional technical assistance
RM = Resident Mission
RSAN = Agriculture, Natural Resource and Social Sectors Division
RSGR = Governance and Regional Cooperation Division
RWSS = Rural Water Supply and Sanitation
SAOC = South Asia Operations and Coordination Division
SARD = South Asia Department
SARS = Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SRI = Sri Lanka
SUB REG = Sub regional
TA = technical assistance
TASF = technical assistance special fund
VIE = Viet Nam
VRM = Viet Nam Resident Mission
WB = World Bank
WTO = World Trade Organization

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FUND
POVERTY REDUCTION COOPERATION FUND
(UNITED KINGDOM AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

Table A 4.1: Status of Grant (Contribution)
as of 31 December 2003
(Amounts in US dollar)

Total Contribution Committed		69,576,330.44 ^a
Less: Loss Arising from Change in Value of Currency		<u>(155,359.09)</u>
Amount received	6,387,500.00	
Undrawn contribution	<u>63,033,471.35</u> ^b	69,420,971.35
Add: Income from Investments	74,255.99	
Interest Income	2,784.06	
Gain/(loss) on Foreign Exchange Transactions	<u>(4.70)</u>	<u>77,035.35</u>
Total Amount Available		69,498,006.70
Less Amounts Utilized for:		
Project Expenditures	(512,142.79)	
Bank Administration Cost	(25,607.14)	
Financial Expense - Bank Charges	<u>(296.59)</u>	<u>(538,046.52)</u>
Unutilized Balance		68,959,960.18 ^c
Less: Outstanding Commitments	(7,537,857.21)	
Reserve for ADB Administration Cost	<u>(376,892.86)</u> ^d	<u>(7,914,750.07)</u>
Uncommitted Balance		61,045,210.11
Less: TA Approved But Not Yet Effective		
BAN/4303: Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation	(350,000.00)	
CAM/4283: Participatory Poverty Assessment of the Tonle Sap	(250,000.00)	
PRC/4215: Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation for the Rural Poor	(400,000.00)	
PRC/4298: Capacity Strengthening of PRC's National Development Planning Services	(360,000.00)	
PRC/4307: Poverty Reduction in Key Forestry Conservation Programs	(400,000.00)	
PRC/4308: Poverty Reduction in Grassland Improvement Program	(400,000.00)	
VIE/4276: Developing the Social Security System	(750,000.00)	
REG/6157: Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific	(400,000.00)	
Reserve for ADB administration cost	<u>(165,500.00)</u>	<u>(3,475,500.00)</u>
Uncommitted Balance Available for New Commitments		<u><u>57,569,710.11</u></u>

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ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FUND
POVERTY REDUCTION COOPERATION FUND
(UNITED KINGDOM AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

Table A 4.1: Status of Grant (Contribution)
as of 31 December 2003
(Amounts in US dollar)

^a Represents the sum of utilized and unutilized contributions expressed in US\$ equivalents.

^b Undrawn contributions in local currency are translated at the applicable rate of exchange as of 31 December 2003.

^c Represented by:

Cash in bank		316,173.43
Investments		5,372,972.45
Accrued interest		1,283.54
Undrawn contribution - (£39 million less £3.575 million)		63,033,471.35
Advances		250,565.00
Less: Interfund payable	(4,357.26)	
Accrued expenses	<u>(10,148.33)</u>	<u>(14,505.59)</u>
		<u><u>68,959,960.18</u></u>

^d Represents 5% of the outstanding commitments.

Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (United Kingdom and Northern Ireland) -Continued
 Table A 4.2: Statement of TA Expenditures as of 31 December 2003
 (US dollars)

TA Title	TA No./ Type	Date of Approval	TA Amount ^a (A)	Amount Received (B)	Project Expenditures ^b			Outstanding Commitments (F) = (A) - (E)	Expected TA Completion Date (G)	Completed TAs	
					Cumulative up to 31/12/02 (C)	Transactions 01/03-31/12/03 (D)	Cumulative up to 31/12/03 (E) = (C) + (D)			Unutilized Commitment (Savings) (H) = (A) - (E)	Financial Completion Date (I)
Cambodia											
Sustainable Employment Promotion for Poor Women	3947/AO	24Oct02	400,000.00		0.00	81,926.11	81,926.11	318,073.89	30-Sep-04		
Engagement of a Poverty Consultant at the Cambodia Resident Mission	3955/AO	30Oct02	78,500.00 ^c		0.00	14,371.53	14,371.53	64,128.47	30-Jun-06		
Preventing Poverty and Empowering Female Workers Affected by Changing International Trade	4131/AO	20Jun03	500,000.00		0.00	26,710.31	26,710.31	473,289.69	31-Dec-04		
Total - Cambodia			<u>978,500.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>123,007.95</u>	<u>123,007.95</u>	<u>855,492.05</u>			
Lao People's Dem Rep.											
Social Protection in the the LAO PDR: Issues and Options	4009/AO	04Dec02	150,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	150,000.00	30-Apr-04		
Integrating Poor in Regional Trade through Standard Setting for Private Sector Development	4108/AO	09May03	150,000.00		0.00	72,100.00	72,100.00	77,900.00	31-Jan-04		
Total - Lao People's Dem. Rep.			<u>300,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>72,100.00</u>	<u>72,100.00</u>	<u>227,900.00</u>			
Pakistan											
Enhancing Capacity for Resource Management and Poverty Reduction in Punjab	4015/AO	05Dec02	230,000.00		0.00	15,434.95	15,434.95	214,565.05	30-Jun-05		
Support for Poverty Reduction Initiatives in Pakistan	4277/AO	18Dec03	63,500.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	63,500.00	31-Jan-06		
Total - Pakistan			<u>293,500.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>15,434.95</u>	<u>15,434.95</u>	<u>278,065.05</u>			

Continued on next page

Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (United Kingdom and Northern Ireland) - *Continued*
 Table A 4.2: Statement of TA Expenditures as of 31 December 2003
 (US dollars)

TA Title	TA No./ Type	Date of Approval	TA Amount ^a	Amount Received	Project Expenditures ^b			Outstanding Commitments	Expected TA Completion Date	Completed TAs	
					Cumulative up to	Transactions	Cumulative up to			Unutilized Commitment	Financial Completion
					31/12/02	01/03-31/12/03	31/12/03			(Savings)	Date
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E) = (C) + (D)	(F) = (A) - (E)	(G)	(H) = (A) - (E)	(I)			
PRC											
A Fund for Strategic Policy Conferences and Studies for Poverty Reductic	4200/AO	21Oct03	400,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	31-Oct-05		
Preventing HIV/AIDS on Road Projects in Yunnan Provinces	4142/AO	14Jul03	800,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	800,000.00	31-Jul-07		
Policy Study on Poverty Reduction Prog of PRC-Trends, Challenges Future Direction	4222/AO	20Nov03	150,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	150,000.00	31-May-04		
Total - PRC			<u>1,350,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,350,000.00</u>			
Sri Lanka											
Community Information Services for the Poor	4110/AO	09May03	<u>800,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>176,702.00</u>	<u>176,702.00</u>	<u>623,298.00</u>	31-Jan-05		
Viet Nam, Soc. Rep. of											
Transport Services Networks for the Poor	4028/AO	11Dec02	350,000.00		0.00	40,712.58	40,712.58	309,287.42	28-Feb-04		
Early Childhood Development for the Poor	4205/AO	24Oct03	450,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	450,000.00	31-Oct-04		
Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Vietnam	4252/AO	12Dec03	73,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	73,000.00	31-Dec-05		
Total - Vietnam			<u>873,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>40,712.58</u>	<u>40,712.58</u>	<u>832,287.42</u>			

Continued on next page

Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (United Kingdom and Northern Ireland) -Continued
 Table A 4.2: Statement of TA Expenditures as of 31 December 2003
 (US dollars)

TA Title	TA No./ Type	Date of Approval	TA Amount ^a (A)	Amount Received (B)	Project Expenditures ^b			Outstanding Commitments (F) = (A) - (E)	Expected TA Completion Date (G)	Completed TAs	
					Cumulative up to 31/12/02 (C)	Transactions 01/03-31/12/03 (D)	Cumulative up to 31/12/03 (E) = (C) + (D)			Unutilized Commitment (Savings) (H) = (A) - (E)	Financial Completion Date (I)
Regional											
Fifth Agriculture and Natural Resources											
Research at CGIAR Centers	5945/RG	13Feb03	905,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	905,000.00	31-Dec-04		
Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty											
Analysis	6061/RG	31Oct02	50,000.00		0.00	48,208.92	48,208.92	1,791.08	30-Apr-03		
Developing Tools for Assessing the											
Effectiveness of ADB Operation in											
Reducing Poverty	6073/RG	16Dec02	600,000.00		0.00	3,713.39	3,713.39	596,286.61	31-Dec-05		
NGO Partnerships for Poverty											
Reduction	6109/RG	27May03	500,000.00		0.00	19,955.00	19,955.00	480,045.00	31-Dec-04		
Reduction in Upland Communities in the Mekong											
Region through Improved Forest	6115/RG	04Aug03	800,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	800,000.00	31-Oct-04		
Promoting NGO Support for Poverty Reduction											
in the Greater Mekong Subregion	6118/RG	22Aug03	150,000.00		0.00	12,308.00	12,308.00	137,692.00	31-Mar-04		
Social Protection Index for Committed											
Poverty Reduction	6120/RG	27Aug03	300,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	300,000.00	31-Mar-05		
Study of Urban Violence in Aisa Towards											
more Effective Urban Upgrading	6130/RG	30Oct03	150,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	150,000.00	28-Feb-05		
Total Regional			<u>3,455,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>84,185.31</u>	<u>84,185.31</u>	<u>3,370,814.69</u>			
Total Approved and Effective TAs			<u>8,050,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>512,142.79</u>	<u>512,142.79</u>	<u>7,537,857.21</u>			

Continued on next page

Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (United Kingdom and Northern Ireland)
 Table A 4.2: Statement of TA Expenditures as of 31 December 2003
 (US dollars)

TA Title	TA No./ Type	Date of Approval	TA Amount ^a	Amount Received	Project Expenditures ^b			Outstanding Commitments	Expected TA Completion Date	Completed TAs	
					Cumulative up to 31/12/02	Transactions 01/03-31/12/03	Cumulative up to 31/12/03			Unutilized Commitment (Savings)	Financial Completion Date
			(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E) = (C) + (D)	(F) = (A) - (E)	(G)	(H) = (A) - (E)	(I)
Add: TA projects/programs approved by UKNI and ADB but not yet effective											
Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation	4303/AO	19Dec03	350,000.00								
Participatory Poverty Assessment of the Tonle Sap	4283/AO	18Dec03	250,000.00								
Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation for the Rural Poor	4215/AO	12Nov03	400,000.00								
Capacity Strengthening of PRC's National Development Planning Services	4298/AO	19Dec03	360,000.00								
Poverty Reduction in Key Forestry Conservations Program	4307/AO	19Dec03	400,000.00								
Poverty Reduction in Grassland Improvement Program	4308/AO	19Dec03	400,000.00								
Developing the Social Security Sy	4276/AO	18Dec03	750,000.00								
Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific	6157/RG	18Dec03	400,000.00								
			<u>3,310,000.00</u>								
				£ 3,575,000.00							
				\$ <u>5,387,500.00</u>							
				\$ <u>1,000,000.00</u>							
			<u>11,360,000.00</u>	\$ <u>6,387,500.00</u> ^d							

^a US\$ equivalent of TA Grant at the time of TA approval.

^b Actual disbursements.

^c Counted as two projects as this TA had an extension which was approved on 16 December 2003.

^d Represents the actual US\$ equivalent of contribution received.

NPRS/PRF Concept Paper Template

{Notes:

1. Please click the **BEGIN** button on the toolbar before starting.
2. To make a new paragraph, press **Enter**, then hold down the **Ctrl** key while pushing the **Tab** key.
3. To mark a checkbox, double-click it, chose **CHECKED** from the **Default Value** box, then click **OK**.
4. Delete the instructions in red type.}

{Title} Concept Paper

Date: {Date}

{To mark a checkbox, **double-click** it, choose **CHECKED** from the **Default Value** box, then click **OK**.}

1. Type/modality of assistance (double-click on appropriate box)

- Lending
 - Project loan
 - Program loan
 - Sector loan
 - Sector development program loan
 - Other: {specify, e.g., loan-financed project preparatory, project implementation, or advisory activities}
- Nonlending
 - Project preparatory
 - Other than project preparatory
 - Economic, thematic, and sector work
 - Institutional development
 - Other: {specify}

2. Assistance Focus

- a. If assistance focuses on a particular sector or subsector, specify the
Sector: {insert sector name}
Subsector: {insert subsector name}
- b. For project preparatory and lending, classification {check one}
 - Core poverty intervention
 - Poverty intervention
- c. Key thematic area(s) {check more than one category, if applicable}

<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Economic Growth	<input type="checkbox"/> Governance
<input type="checkbox"/> Inclusive Social Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Cooperation
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender and Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: {specify}

3. Coverage {click on appropriate box}

- Country Subregional Interregional
- Internal policy development

4. Responsible division/department: {insert name}

5. Responsible ADB officer(s): {insert name if known}

6. Description of assistance(s)

- a. **Background/linkage to country/regional strategy:** {insert text}
- b. **Goal and purpose:** {insert text}
- c. **Components and outputs:** {insert text}
- d. **Expected results and deliverables:** {insert text}

<p>e. Social or environmental issues or concerns: {insert text}</p> <p>f. Plans for disseminating results/deliverables: {insert text}</p>
<p>7. Proposed executing/implementing agencies: {insert name(s)}</p>
<p>8. Nature/extent of government/beneficiary involvement in identifying or conceptualizing the assistance: {insert text}</p> <p>(Note: Mention the institutions in government and civil society, including nongovernment organizations, that have been consulted about the project, and the nature of the consultations.)</p>
<p>9. Timetable for assistance design, processing, and implementation</p> <p>a. Year included in CSP, CSP update, SCSP, SCSP update, or interregional work plan: {Year}</p> <p>b. Expected date of submission for approval Lending: {date} Nonlending (project preparatory): {date} Nonlending (other than project preparatory): {date}</p> <p>c. Period and duration of assistance{s} Lending: {insert period and duration} Nonlending: {insert period and duration}</p>
<p>10. Financing Plan (Indicate possible financing sources and amount of assistance, cost estimates, and financing arrangements)</p> <p>a. For lending</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ordinary capital resources: \${amount}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian Development Fund: \${am ount}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: {specify} \${amount}</p> <p>If cofinancing is required indicate sources, and amount sought: If known, provide cost estimates and financing arrangements. (e.g., total cost, ADB financing, other financing, and government financing):</p> <p>b. For nonlending</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No resources required, other than ADB staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ADB's administrative budget: \${amount}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grant TA funds</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: {specify}</p> <p>If cofinancing is required indicate sources, and amount sought: If known, provide cost estimates and financing arrangements. (e.g., total cost, ADB financing, other financing, and government financing):</p>

ADB = Asian Development Bank, CSP = country strategy and program, SCSP = subregional cooperation strategy and program, TA = technical assistance.

Information Specific to NPRS/PRF Application

1. Funding Request: (Amount in \$; NPRS or PRF)				
2. Counterpart Project Name (processing year), if any:				
3. Proposed PRF/NPRS project processing schedule (month / year; fill in below):				
Peer Review Meeting	Donor-ADB Strategy Meeting (for funding endorsement)	TA Fact-Finding	Expected ADB TA Approval	Implementation
				From: Until:
4. Special Features Justified for NPRS/PRF Funding:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poverty Focus: {What dimensions of poverty will the project address and in what way? How will the needs of the poor addressed? How will inclusiveness and pro-poor governance be addressed?} ▪ Links with Strategic Poverty Reduction Agenda: {How will the project's outputs/outcomes be utilized in support of the strategic poverty agenda of ADB in the country? What are the linkages with CSP and pipelines?} ▪ Links with National Poverty Reduction Strategy: {How will the project contribute to the formulation, prioritization, implementation, monitoring and/or reformulation of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy of the country?} ▪ Why NPRS/PRF: {Why is the activity not funded under other ADB sources? Why can the project not be included in the counterpart loan component? How is the project different from a normal sector work / capacity building?} ▪ Innovativeness: {Why is the project innovative ?} ▪ Need for Pilot (in the case in which the project involves pilot): {Why is pilot needed? What would the pilot test?} ▪ Justification if RETA (in the case of cross-country or cross-regional project): ▪ Scaling-up and Systemic Impact: {How will the lessons learned/results of the project translated into the future ADB and DMC strategies/operations? What changes would you expect the project to bring about to the ADB and DMC strategies and projects?} ▪ Monitoring Mechanism: {How will the project evaluate its direct and indirect benefits on poverty reduction and/or the poor?} ▪ Participation and Ownership: {Will the project directly involve the poor or facilitate the enabling environment for the participation of the poor? Will it involve civil society? Will it involve local expertise? Resident Missions? How will the project forge DMC ownership? Any partnerships with other development partners? } 				
5. Key Assumptions, Risks, Safeguard Issues, and Mitigation Measures				
6. Appendix: Project Framework; Cost Estimates and Financing Plan				

Note: Make sure that the project will meet one or more of the following objectives:

- (i) assist in policy dialogue and strategy formulation on poverty reduction;
- (ii) develop new programs and projects with increased focus on poverty reduction;
- (iii) monitor and assess the poverty reduction impact at the project, meso-and micro levels;
- (iv) launch pilot poverty reduction activities to influence future loan design;
- (v) involve broader stakeholder consultations; and
- (vi) strengthen ADB's role in the region to promote poverty reduction.

PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Design Summary	Performance Indicators/Targets	Monitoring Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
Goal			
Purpose			
Outputs			
Activities			
Inputs			

COST ESTIMATES AND FINANCING PLAN
(\$'000)

Item	Foreign Exchange	Local Currency	Total Cost
A. Asian Development Bank Financing^a			
1. Consultants			
a. Remuneration and Per Diem			
i. International Consultants	0.0	0.0	0.0
ii. Domestic Consultants	0.0	0.0	0.0
b. International and Local Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
c. Reports and Communications	0.0	0.0	0.0
2. Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
3. Pilot	0.0	0.0	0.0
4. Training, Seminars, and Conferences			
a. Facilitators	0.0	0.0	0.0
b. Training Program	0.0	0.0	0.0
5. Surveys	0.0	0.0	0.0
6. Miscellaneous Administration and Support Costs	0.0	0.0	0.0
7. Representative for Contract Negotiations	0.0	0.0	0.0
8. Contingencies	0.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal (A)	0.0	0.0	0.0
B. Government Financing			
1. Office Accommodation and Transport	0.0	0.0	0.0
2. Remuneration and Per Diem of Counterpart Staff	0.0	0.0	0.0
3. Others	0.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal (B)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0

{Define symbols and abbreviations, e.g., — = not available.}

{Notes and footnotes, if any, are next.}

^a {Financed by the . . . }

Source: {Asian Development Bank estimates.}

To complete the table

- (i) Use 0 to indicate magnitude zero.
- (ii) Increase the number of heads (A., B.) if funding will be provided from additional sources.
- (iii) Use superscript a, b, c, etc. rather than numbers for footnotes; the footnote function cannot be used within the table.
- (iv) To insert a **Tab character** in the table, press **Ctrl+Tab**.
- (v) To change the width of any column, hold the **Shift** key, point the mouse cursor on the right border of the column, and drag the mouse to the left or right.
- (vi) To move a number to the next line within a cell, place the cursor before the number then hold the **Shift** key and press **Enter**.
- (vii) To insert a new row, select a row, and click on **Table—Insert Rows** (the new row will be inserted **above** the row selected); or place the cursor at the end of the row (it should appear outside the last column) and then press **Enter** (the new row will be inserted below).
- (viii) To delete a row(s), select the entire row(s), click on the Table menu, and click on Delete Rows.

**COOPERATION FUND IN SUPPORT OF THE FORMULATION AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY
(NPRS – THE NETHERLANDS) AND
POVERTY REDUCTION COOPERATION FUND (PRF – DFID, UK)**

GUIDELINES FOR PEER REVIEW MEETING PARTICIPANTS

A. Background

Under the NPRS/PRF procedures, each proposal will be discussed in a peer review meeting, and comments during the meeting will be incorporated into the final proposal to be submitted to the donors.

B. Points to be Reviewed and Discussed

The peer review meeting decides whether the proposal is ready for submission to the donors, based on the following eligibility criteria (as per Board Papers of National Poverty Reduction Strategies Fund & Poverty Reduction Fund):

- i. **Strong poverty focus.** Not just indirect linkage but direct benefit to poverty reduction is needed.
- ii. **Influencing future Asian Development Bank operations.** The proposal should have a catalytic role in influencing future ADB-financed project designs, lending pipeline, and relevant policies and strategies, so that they would have an appropriate poverty and vulnerability focus. In the case of countries where future lending prospects are unclear, the proposal should be used as a leverage to invite other future investments in the country. Stand-alone assistance will not be supported by NPRS/PRF.
- iii. **Link with national poverty reduction strategies and other relevant policies.** The proposal should support the formulation, implementation, modification, monitoring and evaluation of national poverty reduction strategies, or relevant policies, and programs in the country.
- iv. **Alignment with Country Strategies and Programs.** The proposal should complement the core pipeline, and be in line with approaches (e.g. geographic focus, sectoral and thematic focus) in country strategies and programs and their updates or regional country strategies and programs and their updates.
- v. **Conceptual Additionality.** It should not comprise activities that would otherwise be financed by ADB.
- vi. **Country focus.** Interregional TAs and cross-border TAs need a strong country focus to allow monitoring impacts at a country level.
- vii. **Maximum use of local expertise and civil society participation.** Budget allocation for international consultants should be minimized.
- viii. **Avoid duplication and enhance partnership with other development partners.**
- ix. **Technical feasibility and soundness**

Thank you for your precious time and cooperation.

NPRS/PRF Team at RSPR

Sonomi Tanaka, NPRS/PRF Coordinator (Direct 5339)

Cecilia Rosmeli Santiago, Project Analyst (Local 7548)

Anna Liza Castro, Administrative Assistant (Local 4978)