

## ED David Taylor Completes his Term in ADB



DAVID TAYLOR, on June 30, 2007, completed his one-year term as ADB's Executive Director for Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Turkey, and United Kingdom. He served as Alternate Executive Director for two years prior.

Among others, he was the official liaison between ADB and its donor for the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund, a US\$60 million grant facility established in July 2002 from the Department for International Development (DFID) of the UK Government. Since 2004, Mr. Taylor witnessed the growth of the portfolio of the Fund, and engaged in strategic discussions on the Fund's management.

"The essential purpose in providing this Fund was to help ADB deepen its analysis of poverty issues in the region, and also to assist ADB in preparing loans which would have a stronger focus in tackling and finding challenges," he says. "Taking together the regional funds, and the funds for India, China and Indonesia, totaling \$158 million, this was a useful additional provision of TA funds to ADB."

He adds that: "By its nature, we financed a large number of projects, some of which are still ongoing, and so the full impact of these activities remains to be assessed. Though there are some good indications that the fund provided has been beneficial, an evaluation is now getting started and the results of that will soon be available.

"We've been very pleased with the support provided by Sonomi Tanaka in her role as coordinator. We have found our bi-annual meetings with our partners from the Netherlands very useful. DFID has tended to maintain a light touch on the administration, as we believe that this provides the bank with a more responsive oversight.

"Moving forward, the year ahead will be significant for ADB as it aims to redefine its long-term strategy, and replenish the Asian Development Fund. DFID will be fully engaged in both areas and will be considering how best to support ADB operations in the region in the future, taking account of results achieved to date."

Sebastian Paust succeeded Mr. Taylor, and Uğur Salih Uçar is the new Alternate Director for Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Turkey, and United Kingdom. DFID's Andrew McSkimming is the new Director's Advisor.