

# Currency Equivalents

(as of 20 October 1999)

<b>Bangladesh</b> Taka (Tk) Tk1.00 = \$0.0202 \$1.00 = Tk49.50	<b>Kyrgyz Republic</b> Som (Som) Som1.00 = \$0.0234 \$1.00 = Som42.72	<b>Lao PDR</b> Kip (KN) KN1.00 = \$0.0012 \$1.00 = KN8,250
<b>Nepal</b> Nepalese Rupee (NRs) NRs1.00 = \$0.0145 \$1.00 = NRs68.50	<b>Philippines</b> Peso (P) ₱1.00 = \$0.0248 \$1.00 = ₱40.25	

## Abbreviations

ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
ADF	-	Asian Development Fund
CAP	-	country assistance plan
COS	-	country operational strategy
DMC	-	developing member country
OECD	-	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
HDR	-	Human Development Report
Lao PDR	-	Lao People's Democratic Republic
SF	-	Special Funds
SDO	-	strategic development objective
WB	-	World Bank

## Note

In this report, "\$" refers to US dollars.



## Foreword

**P**overty reduction is the overarching goal of the Asian Development Bank. Part of the process of formulating a poverty reduction strategy was the study that resulted in this publication—the evaluation of ADB’s past approaches to and experiences in designing country strategies and projects that promote poverty reduction. The study was a turning point—a serious examination of how we have fared so far and a forward-looking suggestion of how we can do better. It illustrates ADB’s willingness to learn from the past and improve its future operations.

Many of the recommendations in this volume are reflected in ADB’s *Poverty Reduction Strategy: Fighting Poverty in Asia and the Pacific* and are being pursued in the implementation of the Strategy. Weaknesses in country strategies will be overcome by instituting a systematic process of analyzing the manifestations and causes of poverty, debating with stakeholders in our developing member countries and with colleagues from other development agencies the options for reducing poverty, and signing with governments partnership agreements that define ADB’s contribution to reducing poverty. Project design will be improved through increased analysis of beneficiary needs, use of participatory tools that ensure the involvement of both poor and nonpoor community members, and better analytical tools for measuring the distribution effects and poverty impact ratios of projects.

These operational efforts will be supported by a range of initiatives to strengthen our institutional capacity, undertake operational research, demonstrate our commitment, secure funds, and enhance our profile as a key force in combating poverty. All these efforts are geared towards attaining our goal—to make a measurable contribution toward a rapid and sustained reduction of poverty in the Asian and Pacific region.

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Chief  
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