

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

POVERTY REDUCTION COOPERATION FUND (PRF)

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2004

May 2005

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
AFG	–	Afghanistan
BAN	–	Bangladesh
CAM	–	Cambodia
CSP	–	country strategy and program
CSP/U	–	country strategy and program updates
DFID	–	Department for International Development of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
DMC	–	developing member country
GMS	–	Greater Mekong Subregion
HIV/AIDS	–	Human Immuno Virus/Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
LAO PDR	–	Lao People’s Democratic Republic
MKRD	–	Mekong Department
NGO	–	non-government organization
NPRS	–	Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies
OCO	–	Office of Cofinancing Operations
PPTA	–	project preparatory technical assistance
PRC	–	People’s Republic of China
PRCM	–	People’s Republic of China Resident Mission
PRF	–	Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund
PRF-HQ	–	Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund – Regional Window
PRF-PRC	–	Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund – PRC Window
REG	–	Regional
RETA	–	regional technical assistance
RM	–	Resident Mission
RSDD	–	Regional and Sustainable Development Department
RSPR	–	Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division, RSDD
SME	–	Small and Medium Enterprise
TA	–	technical assistance
VIE	–	Viet Nam

NOTE

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

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This second Annual Report (the Report) on the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (PRF) covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2004¹. The Report summarizes the overall achievements of the PRF in portfolio development, financial administration, and strategic fund management during the reporting period. It also sets out a proposed work program for 2005.

2. The Report has been prepared by the Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in collaboration with the Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO) and the resident mission in the People's Republic of China (PRCM). It is in compliance with the reporting requirements stipulated in the PRF Board Paper and the Memorandum of Understanding.² The Report builds on the Progress Report (January – June 2004)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 2006.

II. BACKGROUND

A. Objectives

3. The PRF was established in July 2002 as a multi-donor fund, with an initial contribution of £39 million (about \$75 million as of 31 December 2004) from DFID until March 2006. Of this, £9 million (about \$18 million) is earmarked for the People's Republic of China (PRC). The Fund assists 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 on 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 as mutually agreed upon between DFID and ADB.

B. Activities

4. The PRF supports 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) supporting national experts based in ADB's resident missions (RMs) working on poverty analysis, and poverty-related gender, stakeholder participation, and governance issues; (viii) outreach and communication; and (ix) administrative costs of fund management. The PRF is not meant to be used for ADB's permanent staffing costs (including salaries and training). It is

¹ The reporting period was set to coincide with ADB's fiscal year (i.e., calendar year).

² ADB. June 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 October 2004.

principally focused on country-based work albeit 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 are generally up to \$1 million.

5. The PRF particularly supports innovative action research, and country- or theme-focused poverty analysis, policy development, capacity development on poverty reduction strategy formulation and implementation, stakeholder coordination, NGO involvement, pilot activities, and poverty reduction monitoring.

C. Eligibility

6. The PRF is open to ADB's DMCs classified as A, B1, or B2 countries⁴, excluding India and Indonesia for which there is a separate DFID fund. All activities should (i) have a strong poverty reduction focus or a significant level of contribution to poverty reduction; (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 solely based on their merit for systemic poverty reduction, with no specific country allocation.

D. Approval Process

7. For the **PRF–Regional Window (PRF–HQ)**⁵, the approval procedure of 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 Netherlands⁶ (para 11). The procedure comprises two main stages, i.e., concept paper endorsement by the donor and TA paper approval by ADB.

8. First, the requests for PRF assistance are received by RSDD as a coordinating department from the ADB regional and knowledge management departments or resident missions throughout the year. In 2004, the proposals were solicited in two 6-monthly batches⁷, while proposals requiring urgent attention were accepted throughout the year. Following a brief discussion, staff prepare proposals and submit them to RSDD through their respective directors. The concept papers are screened in light of the PRF eligibility criteria (para. 6). RSDD then organizes peer review meetings to solicit comments from selected staff and to determine the funding eligibility of the proposals. RSDD consolidates the peer review-supported proposals and

⁴ According to ADB's classification for its DMCs as of 23 December 2004, (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, Federated States of Micronesia, Pakistan, Republic of Marshall Islands, Sri Lanka, Tonga, and Viet Nam; and (iii) Group B2 comprises PRC, India, Indonesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea and Uzbekistan.

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

⁶ See ADB. 2001. *Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies*, Manila; and ADB. 2001. *Channel Financing Arrangement between the Netherlands Minister for Development Cooperation and the Asian Development Bank in regard to a Contribution to the Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies*, Manila.

⁷ In January and July. Originally, an October/November uptake was additionally schedule to align with the country programming calendar, but it was later cancelled due to the temporary suspension of new uptakes decided during the Fifth Strategy Meeting (see para 34). The suspension was soon lifted in December.

submits them to the DFID for a no-objection clearance⁸. The second stage is to obtain ADB approval. Once obtaining a concept note clearance from the respective Vice President⁹, 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.

9. For the **PRF-PRC Component**¹⁰, the approval process is fully integrated into ADB's CSP process in which most activities are identified in the CSP. For inclusion of proposals into CSP/Us, proposals prepared by ADB or 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 respective TA papers for ADB approval in accordance with ADB's general guidelines. When the draft TA paper is circulated across relevant departments in ADB, DFID is also given an opportunity to provide final comments. There is also some flexibility in adding new proposals throughout the year to allow responsiveness to any emerging needs, in which case the initial tripartite clearance is needed as mentioned above, as well as ADB Vice President's concept note clearance, before proceeding with the preparation of a TA paper.

E. Fund Management

10. The overall management of the PRF has been lodged with 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

11. As mentioned above (para 7 and 10), the administration and management of the PRF-HQ are carried out in close coordination with the NPRS Fund. The PRF and NPRS Fund partnership is strengthened through joint six-monthly strategy meetings in Manila during which the work program and the status of project implementation are discussed. The agenda of these six-monthly 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.

12. The PRF also complements with 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/sector trust funds managed by RSDD and others, such as Gender and Development Cooperation Fund, Governance Cooperation Fund, Poverty and Environment Fund, and Cooperation Fund for the Water Sector. Periodical information sharing

⁸ In January 2004, the Netherlands and DFID agreed to have the peer review process determine the funding eligibility, instead of the semi-annual NPRS/PRF strategy meetings, the practice that had been followed until 2003.

⁹ This step is unnecessary if the concept paper has been already included in CSP/Us.

¹⁰ A separate PRC component is provided because DFID is financing such projects from its country allocations for the PRC, whereas funds are provided through a regional cooperation window for all other eligible countries.

and discussion with other fund coordinators avoid overlaps and ensure complementarities across proposed activities.

G. Reporting

13. ADB furnishes to DFID annual reports and semi-annual progress updates. External audit reports may also be submitted as required by DFID. OCO also submits quarterly reports on the status of the grant and statement of expenditures separately prepared for PRF-HQ and PRF-PRC by the Controller's Department. The six-monthly NPRS/PRF strategy meetings also offer an opportunity for ADB to provide up-to-date reporting to the donors. Updates of the PRF-PRC portfolio is regularly consolidated by the PRCM and shared with the NPRS/PRF Coordinator at the headquarters.

H. Monitoring and Evaluation

14. Progress in pipeline development and portfolio management is regularly monitored through close communication between the Project Officers and the Coordinators in HQ and PRCM. For TAs under implementation, the ADB-wide database of TA performance report is constantly monitored by the Coordinators. In addition, each Project Officer is requested to submit a brief 6-monthly progress report to the Coordinators, which will make basis for the consolidated 6-monthly progress update reports submitted to DFID. Key TA outputs (e.g., consultant reports, publication) are submitted to the Coordinators and are posted on the website (<http://adb.org/prf/>). A more comprehensive monitoring of preliminary outcomes and influence on ADB operations and DMC policies, using the "PRF Results Framework" (attached in Appendix 1 of the PRF Board Paper in July 2002) is scheduled in early 2005 through a mid-term review, separately for PRF-HQ and PRF-PRC.

III. OVERVIEW OF PRF ACHIEVEMENTS: JANUARY – DECEMBER 2004

15. The PRF continued to experience strong demand in 2004 with a faster pace in pipeline development than previously. Regional balance has been improved with the increased demand from South Asia and Central Asia. Quality at entry in general also improved as more applicants became aware of the PRF eligibility criteria. However, the pace of TA approvals slowed down in 2004 both in HQ and PRC. Slow disbursements continued to be the issue, which resulted in a temporary suspension of both PRF-HQ and PRF-PRC in October/November. Progress in implementation has been generally on track, while some TAs experienced major delays. Outreach and communication was strengthened with the completion of the website revamping. Details are explained below.

A. Project Portfolio Management

16. **Overview.** As of 31 December 2004, 87 project proposals totaling \$45.60 million or 61% of DFID's initial contribution of £39 million (about \$75 million) have been endorsed for PRF financing. This comprised 70 Technical Assistance TAs totaling \$36.39 million for the PRF-HQ and 17 TAs totaling \$9.21 million for the PRC. By project status, out of the total 87 TAs, 1 TA (\$0.05 million, PRF-HQ) had been completed prior to 2004; 62 TAs (\$30.94 million or 68% of total portfolio) have been approved by ADB (comprising 50 TAs totaling \$24.33 million for the PRF-HQ and 12 TAs totaling \$6.61 million for the PRF-PRC); and 24 TAs (\$14.60 million or 32% of total portfolio) have been endorsed for funding and were under processing for ADB approval (comprising 19 TAs totaling \$12.00 million for the PRF-HQ and 5 TAs totaling \$2.60

million for the PRF-PRC¹¹). The list of projects endorsed for PRF financing by DFID is in Appendix 2.

17. **Portfolio Distribution.** The PRF projects that have been endorsed for funding cover all the nine areas of the envisaged activities and scope (para 5). The portfolio covers all key sectors, including law, economic management and public policy sector (25%); multisector (23%); health, nutrition and social protection (20%); agriculture and natural resources (18%); industry and trade (5%); energy (3%); transport and communication (2%); finance (1%); education (1%); water supply, sanitation and waste management (1%). Most of the portfolio has multiple thematic objectives, with capacity development as a most frequent thematic objective (87% of total), followed by inclusive social development (74%), gender and development (21%), governance (31%), sustainable economic growth (29%), environmental sustainability (20%), private sector development (16%) and regional cooperation (8%). Among the Regional Component, while the PRF portfolio spreads across all regions except for Southeast Asia¹², the share of the Mekong Region is highest (32%), followed by South Asia (22%), non-PRC East and Central Asia (5%) and Pacific (3%). Eighteen percent comes from inter-regional projects. More regional balance was observed in 2004, with the total share of the Mekong Region and inter-regional projects having gone down from 52% and 24% respectively in 2003 while South Asia up from 17%. Illustration of some of the TAs approved in 2004 are in the Box.

18. **New Endorsement.** In 2004, a total of 36 projects in the amount of \$22.71 were additionally endorsed for the **PRF-HQ** window. This was a significant acceleration from 2003 during which 13 projects totaling \$4.45 million were endorsed. In 2002, 24 projects totaling \$9.77 million were endorsed at the two strategy meetings. The sharp increase in PRF-HQ endorsement in 2004, however, is partially due to the fact that the fourth strategy meeting slipped from November/December 2003 to January 2004.

19. As for the **PRF-PRC** window, the 2004 CSP exercise in the first half of the year had programmed 12 TAs for ADB approval in 2004. Of this, 5 TAs totaling \$3.70 million were approved, 3 totaling \$1.50 million were dropped, and 4 totaling \$2.10 million were deferred to 2005. The PRF-PRC portfolio more than doubled from 2003 (\$2.91 million) to 2004 (\$6.61 million).

20. **ADB Approval.** In 2004, a total of 34 TAs (\$19.95 million) were approved, comprising 29 TAs (\$16.25 million) from the **PRF-HQ** window and 5 TAs (\$3.70 million) from the **PRF-PRC** window. While the number of approved TAs increased in 2004 compared to the previous year (28 TAs for both HQ and PRC), the pace of TA processing and approval (measured in terms of number of months) actually slowed from an average of 7.6 months in 2003 to 10.9 months in 2004. This is despite the implementation of the '9-month cut-off scheme' under which the funding validity would be reconsidered if a TA cannot be approved by ADB within 6 months from the funding endorsement. Most delays are due to the project officers' engagement with other priority tasks, normally related to loan processing, and the slow process within the governments in approving the MOU on the TAs. Consultations took place between the PRF-HQ Coordinator and the project officers of the 11 TAs with slow preparation. In all these cases, the decision was made to pursue further processing, as the fact-finding mission and other essential preparatory steps had been already taken by the eighth month from the endorsement. It is worthy to note,

¹¹ The PRC portfolio includes the entire annual work program of 2004, while the Regional Component only partially includes 2004 work program.

¹² 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.

however, that very speedy approval (within 5 months) was observed with three other TAs.

21. **Implementation.** As of 31 December 2004, a total of 62 TAs had been approved by the ADB and is currently under implementation or waiting for effectiveness. Fifty of these TAs were from the **PRF-HQ** window. Of this, the pace of implementation of 47 TAs remained generally on track in 2004 (though with some delays), while 3 of them experienced major delays. Among the 47 TAs, 4 TAs were approaching the final phase (CAM 3947: *Sustainable Employment Promotion for Poor Women*; CAM 4131: *Preventing Poverty and Empowering Female Garment Workers Affected by the Changing International Trade Environment*; LAO 4108: *Integrating the Poor in Regional Trade through Standard-Setting for the Private Sector Development, Phase I*; LAO 4009: *Social Protection in the Lao PDR: Issues and Options*) and one TA (Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis) was completed (para. 24). Many of the 47 TAs experienced some delays or difficulties in implementation, including the difficulties in agreement on consultant rates, wrong choice of consultants, need to adjust scope of work, need to adjust research approach, and the need for realistic realignment with other donors and stakeholders.

22. The three TAs with major delays include: VIE 4028: *Transport Services Networks for the Poor*; REG 5945: *Improving Nutrition of Poor Women and Children in Asia*; and BAN 4303: *Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation*. Causes of delays are: slow initial process of recruiting and fielding of consultants; heavy work commitment of key implementing partners as well as of the staff in the Resident Missions; delayed approval process within the host government; and the poor performance of the consultant.

23. Under the **PRF-PRC** window, a total of 12 TAs were under implementation or waiting for effectiveness. One of them (PRC 4142: *Fighting Poverty through HIV/AIDS on Road Projects in Yunnan Province*) experienced a major delay, as all the TA schedules needed to be postponed to adjust to the delayed schedule of the counterpart road project. Some delays were caused by slow processing and negotiation of contract for consultants with three TAs – 4215: *Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation for the Rural Poor*, 4307: *Poverty Reduction of Key Forestry Conservation Programs*; and 4308: *Poverty Reduction in Grassland Improvement Program*, but they were all within the manageable level.

24. **Completion.** One TA, REG 6061: *Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis*, initiated financial closing in late 2004. The findings and recommendations of the TA have resulted in Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific (approved in December 2003) and the Pacific Strategy (November 2004).

25. **Dropped TAs.** In 2004, one TA in the **PRF-HQ** pipeline and three under the **PRF-PRC** pipeline were withdrawn from the list. In October 2004, the project MKRD Subregional: *Delivering Energy Services for the Poor – Learning from the Mekong* (endorsed in December 2002) was withdrawn, due to (i) the unavailability of the project officer; (ii) the fact that some of the concept has picked up by some other initiatives; and (iii) the responses from the country counterparts that the concept can be best approached at a country level instead of regional level. Under the **PRF-PRC**, among the three (Provincial SME Development for Poverty Reduction; Empowerment of the Poor on the Road Development in Shaanxi Province; Rural Development in Mountainous Areas in Southern Ningxia), one was dropped after the fact-finding mission (Shaanxi).

26. **Preliminary Outcomes.** While it is premature to assess the overall outputs and outcomes of the TAs under the PRF, the experience of the five PRF-HQ TAs at the mature/completed stage (para 21) indicates that there should be more realistic expectations

about 'scaling-up' or 'scaling-out'. One TA may not be sufficient to influence ADB operations or DMC policies in a significant manner. For example, CAM 4131 (garment workers) has successfully assisted the government with preparing a pro-poor garment sector strategy with stakeholder participation, but has not strongly influenced ADB's CSP. The pilot component was under-budgeted and requires another grant for expanding the scope to yield any kind of substantive pilot results. CAM 3947 (employment for women) has provided good training and capacity building to the ministry of women, but the idea of a women development center needs further pilot-testing through another grant. More detailed case studies are expected to be developed by the scheduled mid-term reviews in 2005.

Examples of PRF Projects Approved by ADB in 2004

► Pilot Poverty Reduction Activities for Future Scaling-Up

AFG: Poverty Reduction and Rural Renewable Energy Development (TA 4461 – AFG, \$750,000)

This pilot project will replicate the 'barefoot college' community-based solar energy system developed in India to off-grid remote rural areas in Afghanistan. The project includes (i) participatory needs assessment and planning; (ii) installment of solar systems; (iii) community-based training on energy-based income generation activities, especially for women; (iv) training on installation and maintenance of solar energy systems; (v) community-managed solar fund of O&M; and (vi) project assessment and scaling-up.

► Implementation of Pro-Poor Policy and Strategy

VIE: Support for Pro-poor Health Policies (TA 4331 – VIE, \$500,000)

The TA will strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Health to effectively implement the Prime Minister's Decision 139 to establish province-level health care for the poor, and support policy research on health and poverty in Viet Nam, barriers to health care utilization by the poor, determinants of health care costs and demand for health insurance among rural population.

► Monitoring and Assessment of Poverty Reduction Impacts of ADB Operations

PRC: Developing a Poverty Monitoring System at the County Level (TA 4454 – PRC \$300,000)

The TA will develop quantitative and qualitative methodologies to assess poverty reduction impact of development projects and programs at a county level. This will provide timely, relevant and quality statistical information useful for poverty-related analysis to support policy- and decision-making processes. The Rural Survey Organization country offices will be trained on the methodologies to collect the required statistical information for poverty monitoring.

► Strengthening Regional Cooperation to Address Poverty

GMS: Preventing the Trafficking of Women and Children and Promoting Safe Migration in the Greater Mekong Subregion (RETA 6190 - GMS \$700,000)

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) has been active in addressing cross-border poverty issues. The TA will (i) develop institutional awareness and capacity within ADB and in the developing member countries of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Thailand, to promote safe migration and address human trafficking and related issues in regional projects in the GMS, and (ii) pilot programs for the prevention of trafficking, which will be developed in the context of the ADB-supported projects, the Northern Economic Corridor and the Mekong Tourism Development.

B. Financial Status

27. **Overview.** The total PRF contribution committed by DFID is £39 million for project financing from July 2002 to March 2006 (£30 million for PRF-HQ and £9 million for PRF-PRC). As of 31 December 2004, the value of the PRF fund (including income from investment, interest earned, gain/loss on foreign exchange transactions) was \$74.7 million (\$56.7 million for PRF-HQ and \$18.0 million for PRF-PRC). Of this, ADB has received \$6.39 million, comprising \$4.29 million for the PRF-HQ and \$2.1 million for the PRF-PRC. The total actual expenditure of the committed amount on 31 December 2004 was \$3.49 million (\$2.92 million for PRF-HQ; \$0.57 million for PRF-PRC) after 2.5 years of operations. The remaining cash balance is \$1.37 million for the HQ and \$1.53 million for the PRC, excluding the administrative costs and bank charges. The financial statement as of 31 December 2004, including disbursement by project, is in Appendix 3.

28. **Disbursement.** The total cumulative disbursement as of 31 December 2003 was \$0.51 million for the PRF-HQ and \$0 for the PRF-PRC. In 2004 alone, the PRF-HQ disbursed \$2.41 million (coming from 23 TAs out of 50 approved TAs totaling \$24.33 million), while the PRF-PRC disbursed \$0.57 million (coming from 8 TAs out of 12 approved TAs totaling \$6.61 million). This has resulted in the cumulative disbursement of \$2.92 million (12% of total approved) and \$0.57 million (9% of total approved), respectively. While the speed of disbursement was significantly accelerated in 2004, the overall slow pace still remained an issue both for the PRF-HQ and the PRF-PRC, which resulted in a temporary suspension of new uptake of projects in October 2004 (paras. 31-32).

29. **Disbursement Projection.** Pursuant to the agreements made during the Fourth strategy Meeting in January 2004, a long-term disbursement projection was prepared by the ADB in May 2004, to provide a basis for the 6-monthly payment schedules of the PRF. The projections, using statistical methodologies drawing on the previous disbursement patterns of ADB-wide advisory TAs, projected an additional disbursements in 2004 of about \$3.6 million¹³. However, as this turned out to be an optimistic scenario compared with the actual disbursement amount (\$2.4 million), a more conservative new projection for 2005 is now under preparation, using updated information about the recently endorsed projects. Additional remittance requests from ADB to DFID, both for the HQ and PRC, will need to be made in 2005.

C. Key Achievements in Fund Management¹⁴

30. **Strategic Discussions.** During the review period, RSDD organized two semi-annual NPRS Fund/PRF strategy meetings in Manila (the Fourth Strategy Meeting on 27-29 January 2004 and the Fifth on 13-14 October 2004). These meetings provided strategic directions to the PRF fund management, including, among others, (i) introduction of the 'light-touch' approach by donors, i.e., peer review process to be used as a venue for primary decision on funding eligibility (fourth meeting); (ii) introduction of a long-term disbursement projection and its updates as a basis for annual financial planning (fourth meeting); (iii) restructuring of the strategy meeting discussions away from individual proposals to macro-level strategic issues (starting from the fifth meeting); (iv) need for further schedule alignment of the NPRS/PRF with annual country programming to the extent possible (fourth and fifth); (v) agreement on schedules and terms of reference of a mid-term review in 2005 (fifth meeting); (v) agreement on a new regional TA to strengthen knowledge generation and sharing across NPRS/PRF and with

¹³ See *PRF Long-Term Disbursement Projection and Revised Fund Duration. Explanatory Note* (May 2004).

¹⁴ This section primarily refers to the PRF-HQ window unless otherwise stated.

other poverty-related activities in ADB (fifth meeting); (vi) adjustments in some eligibility criteria, e.g., flexible approach to international consultant recruitment (fifth meeting). Follow-up actions have been immediately taken by the NPRS/PRF Coordinator in RSDD.

31. **Successful Peer Review Process.** Quality peer review meetings continued in 2004, pulling together resource persons from across ADB, including the resident missions. Pursuant to the 'light-touch' approach, the in-house peer-review process has replaced the donor endorsement function starting from February 2004. Thirty (30) peer review meetings were carried out under the PRF-HQ in 2004. Feedback from the project officers indicates the importance of the peer review process, as it provides for a rare opportunity for knowledge exchange within and across departments as well as between sector, thematic and country specialists (including RMs). At the moment, the peer reviewers contribute their time voluntarily. To be more sustainable, there is a need to link this process to an institutional recognition, an issue for consideration under the upcoming mid-term review.

32. **Assistance to Project Officers.** The NPRS/PRF Coordinator closely assisted NPRS project officers with the entire processing cycle. Cost-sharing support to fact-finding missions from the NPRS/PRF administration budget helped participation of additional mission members, contributing to the interdisciplinary TA design and participatory preparation process. Monitoring of TAs under implementation was strengthened with the required submission of key consultant outputs and back-to-office reports to the NPRS/PRF Coordinator.

33. **Procedural Improvement.** In late 2004, two new considerations were made, in the light of the feedback from project officers from regional and knowledge management departments. First, it has been identified that the eligibility criterion that emphasizes the use of domestic and regional experts has been misinterpreted as the minimization of the international consultants. However, this was considered as rigid and immediately lifted effective October 2004. Second, the nine-month cut-off rule between the funding endorsement and the ADB management approval has been further shortened to six months for the 2005 program for further acceleration of processing and implementation.

34. **Establishment of the Disbursement Cut-Off.** In response to the agreement with donors on the need to procedurally align, to the extent possible, with ADB's annual country programming in DMCs, the NPRS/PRF Coordinator had planned an additional batch of new proposal uptake in October/November 2004 to allow inclusion of NPRS/PRF proposals into the 2005 non-lending program. However, during the Fifth Strategy Meeting in October 2004, DFID pointed out the gap between the fast pipeline development and the slow implementation, especially the slow pace of disbursement although an accelerating trend was observed. It further proposed a temporary suspension of pipeline development¹⁵ until the mid-term review in early 2005 which would introduce a series of measures to accelerate implementation and disbursement. Further discussions between DFID and ADB have led to a decision in December 2004 to set a cut-off date for all *disbursements* under the PRF-HQ on 31 March 2008 as a new benchmark, as opposed to the original cut-off date for *commitments* on 30 June 2006. The suspension of new uptake was lifted immediately thereafter. DFID at the same time requested ADB to urgently undertake measures to accelerate commitments so that the PRF-HQ would be fully committed ideally by end 2005 but if not by early 2006. Modified guidelines for the 2005 PRF-HQ operations were developed by ADB to accommodate these requests.

¹⁵ See *Note of the Fifth Strategy Meeting on the NPRS Fund/PRF* (18 November 2004). Exceptions were allowed for projects that would require urgent attention.

35. **Preparation of the PRF-HQ Mid-term Review.** As agreed upon during the 5th NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting, a mid-term review on the implementation and management of the PRF Fund is scheduled in January 2005. The need for review is justified in view of the need for a re-assessment of the PRF as a tool for poverty reduction partnerships. In this regard, a terms of reference for an independent review of the PRF was drafted, to define the tasks that will be done in relation to the said review that will cover PRF-HQ only.

36. **PRF-PRC: Suspension of Pipeline Development.** The sustained concerns regarding slow disbursement within the PRF-PRC portfolio and the low uptake of TAs directly linked to ADB loans (DFID's priority for the fund), in November 2004, DFID China formalized a suspension of new PRF-PRC proposals, along with canceling funding for the proposed Provincial Poverty Reduction Agreement. Prospects for lifting of the suspension appear contingent on improving PRF-PRC performance, principally through accelerating disbursement. The new PRF-PRC team in PRCM that came into place in October 2004 immediately undertook various measures including strengthened monitoring of the PRF-PRC portfolio performance and improved communication with project officers concerned in the HQ. As in the PRF-HQ, a mid-term review of the PRF-PRC is scheduled in the first half of 2005 which would highlight key implementation bottlenecks and provide a series of recommendations for improvement.

37. **Outreach and Communication.** Through a series of promotional activities, the PRF, together with the NPRS, has gained significant visibility within the ADB. External relations were also actively carried out. The PRF website (<http://adb.org/prf/>) was revamped in July 2004 and monthly update continued. The website includes the general background of the PRF, eligibility and processing details, project portfolio and progress in each TA, news releases, and key reports. Further, at the Fifth Strategy Meeting, it was decided for ADB to prepare a RETA in 2005 to strengthen knowledge generation, collation, and dissemination related to the NPRS/PRF projects.

38. **Coordination and Partnership.** Efforts to coordinate with other poverty reduction grant funds and thematic and/or sector trust funds continued in 2004, in the form of informal meetings and discussions on individual project proposals. Continuous harmonization with the NPRS Fund was confirmed in the two strategy meetings in 2004. The availability of the NPRS Fund minimized the negative impact of the temporary suspension of the PRF-HQ in October-December 2004. The coordination between PRF-HQ and PRF-PRC was significantly strengthened in late 2004.

IV. ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2005

39. Two semi-annual NPRS/PRF strategy meetings are scheduled for 2005 - the Sixth and Seventh Strategy Meetings. Further, the following are set as targets for 2005.

- (i) Carry out a mid-term review in the 1st quarter (PRF-HQ) and mid-year (PRF-PRC) to determine future course of the programs;
- (ii) Help the regional departments prepare quality proposals through the peer review process and complete the commitment of the remaining some \$20 million by the end 2005 by applying new measures, e.g., pilot support to PPTA cofinancing, more consultant support to RMs, etc. (PRF-HQ);

- (iii) Accelerate ADB approvals of endorsed projects by shortening nine-month cut-off period (from the peer review endorsement) to six months;
- (iv) Accelerate implementation of approved projects through close monitoring of TA progress and outputs produced;
- (v) Accelerate disbursement of approved projects to ensure the closing in March 2008¹⁶ (PRF-HQ) through close monitoring of disbursement targets set by up-to-date projections;
- (vi) Strengthen knowledge management of experiences generated by the NPRS/PRF Projects within and outside ADB through a preparation and implementation of a regional TA;
- (vii) Enhance outreach and communications through the revamped website, press releases, other media tools, and continued consultation with regional departments; and
- (viii) Continue harmonization with other relevant donor-assisted grant funds, especially the NPRS Fund.

¹⁶ Closing date of PRF-PRC is separately discussed between DFID China and PRCM.

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	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 requests NPRS Fund/PRF assistance; submits draft concept paper through his/her director to the NPRS/PRF Coordinator using the NPRS/PRF Concept Paper Template																								Project Officer, NPRS Fund/PRF Coordinator, others
	3	NPRS Fund/PRF coordinator organizes peer review meeting to solicit comments from selected staff and to determine funding eligibility of the proposals.																								Project Officers, NPRS/PRF Coordinator and Peer Review Team
Prioritization and Donor Endorsement	4	RSDD consolidates the peer review-supported proposals and submits them to the Netherlands for a no-objection clearance																								NPRS/PRF Coordinator through the RSDD DG
	5	Additional projects can be submitted to the donors throughout the year.																								
	6	Project record creation in Project Processing Information System																								Project Officer
	7	Listing in <i>ADB Business Opportunities</i>																								Project Officer
	8	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 ^a .																								Project Officer
ADB TA Approval	Internal Process	9	Project officer (with the help of NPRS Fund/PRF coordinator) prepares memo for mission cost sharing through the NPRS/PRF administrative budget.																							Project Officer
		10	RSPR approves NPRS Fund/PRF mission budget																							
	Fact-Finding Mission	11	Project officer conducts fact-finding mission, including donor and participatory stakeholder dialogue in the field.																							Project Officer through Regional Director
		12	Signing of memorandum of understanding with the Government																							
		13	Back-to-office report																							
		14	Project officer prepares draft TA paper																							
		15	Interdepartmental comments																							
16	Project officer submits technical assistance paper, through ADB process, for ADB approval																								Government	
17	ADB approval																								Project Officer through Regional Director	
		14	Project officer prepares draft TA paper																						Project Officer (with support from RSPR)	
		15	Interdepartmental comments																						Various Departments	
		16	Project officer submits technical assistance paper, through ADB process, for ADB approval																						Project Officer	
		17	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 on National Poverty Reduction Strategy; PRF = Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund; RSPR = Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division; RSDD = Regional and Social Development Department; TA = technical assistance

^a Starting 2005, inter regional TAs are required to obtain concept clearance from the Vice President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, prior to proposal submission to the NPRS/PRF

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
A. PROJECTS COMPLETED									
PARD	SUB-REG	Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis	50,000	S. Pollard	PAHQ	Jul-02	31-Oct-02	6061	
	1	Sub-total	\$ 50,000						
B. PROJECTS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION									
PRF-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	C. Spohr/ A. Leung	PRCM	Aug-03	21-Oct-03	4200	
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Reduction in Key Forestry Conservation Programs	400,000	B. Carrad	ECAE	Aug-03	19-Dec-03	4307	
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Reduction in Grassland Improvement Program	400,000	B. Carrad	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	C. Buentjen/C. H. Oh	RSGR/ECGF	Aug-03	15-Dec-03	4298	
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Impact of Areawide Road Networks	1,000,000	K. Jraiw	ECTC	Dec-02	30-Apr-04	4322	
ECRD	PRC	Rural Income and Sustainable Development	900,000	L. Adriano	ECAE	Aug-03	30-Sep-04	4401	
ECRD	PRC	Heating Supply for Urban Poor in Liaoning Province	500,000	Bo Lin	ECEN	Aug-03	5-Oct-04	4402	

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
ECRD	PRC	Rural Finance Reforms and Development of Microfinance Institutions (Rural Credit Cooperatives Development)	1,000,000	B. Wilkinson	ECGF	2004	09-Nov-04	4430	
ECRD	PRC	Developing a Poverty Monitoring System at a County Level	300,000	A. Asra	ERDI	Aug-03	1-Dec-04	4454	
	12	Subtotal	\$ 6,610,000						
PRF-Headquarter									
ECRD	KYR	A Study of the Impact of Land Reform on Agriculture, Poverty Reduction and Environment	400,000	L. Adriano and J. Whittle	ECAE	Jan-04	12-Oct-04	4408	
ECRD	KYR	Study on Pricing Systems and Cost Recovery mechanisms for Irrigation in the Kyrgyz Republic	300,000	J. Tokeshi and J. Whittle	ECAE	Jan-04	11-Oct-04	4405	
ECRD	TAJ	Community-Based Microhydropower Development in Remote Rural Areas of Tajikistan	800,000	X. Humbert	ECEN with TJRM	Feb-04	5-Nov-04	4423	Initial phase, \$300,000; upon successful initial phase, DFID will commit another \$500,000.
MKRD	CAM	Sustainable Employment Promotion for Poor Women	400,000	J. Hakim	MKSS	Jul-02	24-Oct-02	3947	
MKRD	CAM	Preventing Poverty and Empowering Female Garment Workers Affected by the Changing International Trade Environment	600,000	L. Ding	MKGF	Dec-02	20-Jun-03	4131	Original amount was \$500,000. The President approved the \$100,000 increase on 11 August 2004.
MKRD	CAM	Participatory Poverty Study of the Tonle Sap Basin	325,000	M. Mitra	MKAE	Dec-02	17-Dec-03	4283	Additional \$75,000 was endorsed by DFID on 27 Sep 04 and approved by ADB on 01 Oct 2004

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
MKRD	CAM	Engagement of a Poverty Consultant at the Cambodia Resident Mission	78,500	C. Ouch	CARM	Jul-02 Jul-03	30-Oct-02 16-Dec-03	3955	TASF \$18,000; NPRS \$31,500. This is an extension of a completed TA
MKRD	CAM	Capacity Building for the Tonle Sap Poverty Reduction Initiative	500,000	O. Serrat	MKAE	Jan-04	16-Aug-04	4376	
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	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	20-May-04	4339	
MKRD	LAO	Marketing Support of Organic Produce of Ethnic Minorities	600,000	M. Katagami	MKAE	Dec-02	17-Sep-04	4392	
MKRD	LAO	Capacity Building for Smallholder Livestock Systems in Lao PDR	550,000	M. Katagami	MKAE	Jan-04	11-Oct-04	4406	
MKRD	LAO	Poverty Reduction Through Land Tenure Consolidation, Participatory Natural Resources Management and Local Communities Skills Building	850,000	M. Huddleston	MKID	Jul-04	17-Nov-04	4434	
MKRD	LAO	Integrating the Poor in Regional Trade through Standard-Setting for Private Sector Development (Phase 2)	700,000	M. Varkay	MKGF	Jul-03	21-Dec-04	4481	
MKRD	VIE	Transport Services Networks for the Poor	350,000	C. Litwin	MKID	Jul-02	11-Dec-02	4028	

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
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/ V. Subramanian	MKGF	Jul-03	18-Dec-03	4276	
MKRD	VIE	Support for Pro-poor Health Policies in Viet Nam	500,000	E. Bloom	MKSS	Jul-03	28-Apr-04	4331	
MKRD	VIE	Supporting the Preparation of the Law on Gender Equality	370,000	Y. Uehara	MKOC	Aug-04	26-Nov-04	4453	
MKRD	VIE	Developing Agricultural Insurance in Viet Nam	600,000	S. Lewis	MKGF	Jul-04	21-Dec-04	4480	
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	C. Hnanguie	NGOC	Dec-02	22-Aug-03	6118	
MKRD	SUB-REG	Preventing the Trafficking of Women and Children and Promoting Safe Migration in the Greater Mekong	700,000	M. Mitra	MKAE	Jul-03	4-Oct-04	6190	
PARD	SUB-REG	Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific	400,000	K. Taniguchi	PAHQ	Dec-02	18-Dec-03	6157	NPRS \$400,000
PARD	SUB-REG	Making Resource Allocation Pro-poor and Participatory in the Pacific	500,000	S. Pollard	PAHQ	Jul-03	16-Jun-04	6175	
SARD	AFG	Poverty Reduction and Rural Renewable Energy Development	750,000	A. Azimi	SAOC	Jan-04	3-Dec-04	4461	

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
SARD	AFG	Natural Resources Management and Environmental Protection Project/Alleviation of Poverty in Buffer Zone of Protected Areas	810,000	A. Azimi	SAOC	Jan-04	23-Dec-04	4541	
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	16-Mar-04	4320	
SARD	BAN	Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation	350,000	H. Du/ Z. Hossain	BRM	Jul/Dec 02	19-Dec-03	4303	
SARD	NEP	Promoting Pro-poor and Gender Responsive Service Delivery Project	200,000	A. Shrestha/ S. Ra	NRM	Jul-03	7-Jul-04	4353	
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	PAK	Determinants and Drivers of Poverty Reduction and ADB's Contribution in Rural Pakistan	580,000	N. Hamid/ S. Parvez	PRM	Dec-02	5-Mar-04	4319	An amount increase of \$100,000 endorsed on 20 Nov 03; In 2004, a change in scope for a complementary contributory study on the impact of global cotton prices on rural poverty in Pakistan was proposed, increasing the TA amount by another \$180,000. This was approved on 22 Dec 04.

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
SARD	PAK	Non-Formal Primary Education and Functional Literacy for Rural Women in Selected Barani Areas of Punjab	400,000	A. Tayyab	SAAE	Jan-04	13-Oct-04	4414	
SARD	PAK	Mobilization of Grassroots Stakeholders for Pro-Poor Social Service Delivery (Sindh)	500,000	M. Sultana	SASS	Jan-04	22-Nov-04	4443	
SARD	PAK	Implementing the Public Safety Reforms in Four Districts of the Punjab Province	950,000	D. Porter/ R. Ahmad	PRM	Jun-04	23-Dec-04	4535	
SARD	SRI	Community Information Services for the Poor	800,000	A. Inagaki	SASS	Dec-02	9-May-03	4110	
SARD	SRI	Psycho-social Health in Conflict-affected Areas	400,000	A. Weber/ J. Boestel	SASS	Jun-04	22-Nov-04	4442	
REG	INTER-REG	Developing Tools for Assessing the Effectiveness of ADB Operations in Reducing Poverty	600,000	G. Sugiyarto/ R. Hasan	ERDI	Jul-02	16-Dec-02	6073	
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	J. Jeugmans	RSAN	Jul-02	23-Feb-03	5945	
REG	INTER-REG	NGO Partnerships for Poverty Reduction	1,000,000	B. Edes	SAOC	Dec-02 Jan-04	27-May-03 21-Jun-04	6109	The TA was originally \$500,000; Additional \$500,000 was endorsed by donor on Jan-04 and ADB approved the increase on 21 Jun 04
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

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
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	
REG	INTER-REG	Pilot Project on Institutionalizing Civil Society Participation to Create Local Pro-Poor Budgets	400,000	J. Jabes	RSGR	Dec-02	6-Apr-04	6170	
REG	INTER-REG	Building Capacity for Participatory Approaches to Poverty Reduction in ADB Operation	300,000	A. Sweetser	RSPR	Jul-03	14-Jul-04	6176	NPRS \$300,000
REG	INTER-REG	Establishing Legal Identity for Social Inclusion	575,000	C. Vandenaabeele	OGC w/ RDs	Jan-04	30-Sep-04	6188	Amount increased from \$500,000 to \$575,000 on 26 Jul 2004
REG	INTER-REG	Strengthening and Collection of Purchasing Power Parity Data in ADB DMCs	800,000		ERDI	Mar-04	14-Oct-04	6088	
REG	INTER-REG	Pilot Testing of Participatory Assessment Methodologies for Sustainable and Equitable Water Supply and Sanitation Services	550,000	J. Francis	RSPR	Jan-04	23-Dec-04	6224	
50		Sub-total	\$ 24,330,000						

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
C. PROJECTS UNDER PROCESSING									
PRF-PRC									
ECRD	PRC	Poverty Reduction in Coal Mine Areas	500,000	E. Hassing	ECEN	Aug-03	2004	-	
ECRD	PRC	Village Poverty Reduction Planning with NGO Participation	1,000,000	D. S. Sobel	PRCM		2004		
ECRD	PRC	Urban Poverty Strategy Study	300,000	S. Penjor	ECSS	Aug-03	2005	-	
ECRD	PRC	Impact of Closure of Coal Mines in Poverty Areas and Options for Job Creation	300,000	E. Hassing	ECEN	Aug-03	2005	-	
ECRD	PRC	Alternative Energy Supply for Rural Poor in Remote Areas	500,000	A. Bhargava	ECEN		2005		
	5	Subtotal	\$ 2,600,000						
PRF-Headquarter									
ECRD	TAJ	Improved Farm Management in Large Cotton Farms	800,000	L. Adriano	ECAE	Oct-04	2005		
MKRD	CAM	Community Self-Reliance and Flood Risk Reduction	500,000	I. Fox	MKAE	Jun-04	2005		
MKRD	CAM	Developing Cambodia Business Initiative in Rural Development (C-BIRD)	150,000	M. de Alwis/ S. Mar	MKAE/ CARM	Nov-04	2005		
MKRD	LAO	Promoting LAO Women Union's Capacity to Organize Poor Rural Women for Viable Micro Finance Services for the Poor	300,000	M. Mitra and B. Coleman	MKAE/ MKGF	Jan-04	2005		Rescheduled for 2005 due to the delay in counterpart loan

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
MKRD	VIE	Air Pollution and Poverty	600,000	H. Gunatilake / C. Huzienga	MKAE/ RSES	Jul-04	2005		
MKRD	SUB-REG	Safeguarding Biodiversity for Poverty Reduction in the Mekong Region	550,000	J. Mir	MKAE	Jul-04	2005		
MKRD	SUB-REG	Vulnerability and Risk Mitigation among Ethnic Minorities in the GMS through Information Management	700,000	A. Jain	MKSS	Jun-04	2005		
SARD	NEP	Enabling the Private Sector to Undertake Poverty-Focused Water Distribution in Kathmandu Valley	820,000	K. Tamaki	SASS	Jun-04	2005		
SARD	NEP	Reducing the Vulnerability of Conflict-affected People	650,000	K. Sherchan/ S. Ra	NRM	Jul-04	2005		TA circulation scheduled on Nov. 2
SARD	NEP	Reaching the Most Disadvantage Groups in Mainstream Rural Development	686,000	M. Mongiorgi/ L. Chazee/ L. Sharma	SAAE/ NRM	Jun-04	2005		
SARD	NEP	Economic and Social Inclusions of the Disadvantaged Poor through Micro-Irrigation and Other Livelihood Enhancement Initiatives	600,000	K. Yokoyama	SAAE	Nov-04	2005		
SARD	PAK	Support to Implementation of Gender Reform Action Plans (GRAPs)	800,000	I. Shahjehan	PRM	Jun-04	2005		
SARD	PAK	Sustainable Urban Livelihood for Sindh	645,000	T. Gallego-Lizon	SASS	Nov-04	2005		
REG	INTER-REG	Social Health Insurance in Asia and the Pacific: Lessons Learned and Prospects	400,000	J. Jeugmans	RSAN	Jul-03	2005	-	Amount increase to \$400,000 was endorsed by DFID on Feb 11, 2004
REG	INTER-REG	Socio-economic Impact of Road Crashes on the Poor (IND/PAK/VIE/INO)	925,000	C. Melhuish	RSFI	Jan-04	2005		

PROJECTS ENDORSED FOR PRF BY DFID (As of 31 December 2004)

Region	Country	Project Title	PRF Contribution	Project Officer	Division	Peer Review Meeting	ADB Approval	TA No.	Remarks
REG	INTER-REG	Developing Pro-Poor Governance Capability and Knowledge	875,000	A. Newsum	RSGS w/ RDs	Feb-04	2005		
REG	INTER-REG	Integrated Approaches to Poverty Reduction at the Neighborhood Level (VIE/INO/IND/PHI)	750,000	M. Lindfield	SESS	Jul-04	2005		
REG	INTER-REG	Socio-economic and Legal Empowerment Initiative for Vulnerable Groups	750,000	F. Tornieri/ K. Ahmad	RSPR/ OGC	Jul-04	2005		
REG	INTER-REG	Social Protection for the Informal Sector	500,000	A. Vahapassi/ M. van der Auwera	RSPR	Oct-04	2005		
	19	Sub-total	\$ 12,001,000						
	87	Grand Total	\$ 45,591,000						
D. DROPPED TAs									
MKRD	SUB REG	Delivering Energy Service for the Poor -- Learning from the Mekong	600,000	C. Litwin	MKID	Dec-02	2004		Dropped in October 2004

ADB	Asian Development Bank	HIV/AIDS	Human Immuno Virus/Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome	PRC	People's Republic of China
AFG	Afghanistan			PRCM	People's Republic of China Resident Mission
BAN	Bangladesh	IND	India	PRM	Pakistan Resident Mission
BRM	Bangladesh Resident Mission	INO	Indonesia	RD	Regional Department
CAM	Cambodia	KYR	Kyrgyz Republic	REG	Regional
CARM	Cambodia Resident Mission	LAO	Lao People's Democratic Republic	RSAN	Agriculture, Natural Resources and Social Sectors Division
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research	MKAE	Mekong Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division	RSES	Environment and Social Safeguard Division
DMC	Developing Member Country	MKGF	Mekong Governance, Finance and Trade Division	RSGR	Governance and Regional Cooperation Division
ECAE	East and Central Asia Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division	MKID	Mekong Infrastructure Division	RSPR	Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division
ECEN	East and Central Asia Energy Division	MKOC	Mekong Operations and Coordination Division	SAAE	South Asia Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division
	East and Central Asia Governance, Finance and Trade Division	MKRD	Mekong Department	SAOC	South Asia Operations and Coordination Division
ECRD	East and Central Asia Department	MKSS	Mekong Social Sectors Division	SARD	South Asia Department
ECSS	East and Central Asia Social Sectors Division	NEP	Nepal	SASS	South Asia Social Sectors Division
ECTC	East and Central Asia Transportation and Communications Division	NGO	Non-government organization	SLRM	Sri Lanka Resident Mission
ERDI	Development Indicators and Policy Research Division	NPRS	National Poverty Reduction Strategies	SRI	Sri Lanka
GMS	Greater Mekong Subregion	NRM	Nepal Resident Mission	SUBREG	Subregional
INTER-REG	Inter Regional	OGC	Office of the General Counsel	TAJ	Tajikistan
		PAHQ	Pacific Operations Division	TJRM	Tajikistan Resident Mission
		PAK	Pakistan	VIE	Viet Nam
		PARD	Pacific Division	VRM	Viet Nam Resident Mission
		PHI	Philippines		

Statement 1

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
ADMINISTRATOR FOR
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FUND
POVERTY REDUCTION COOPERATION FUND - REGIONAL PROGRAM
(UNITED KINGDOM AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

STATUS OF GRANT (CONTRIBUTION)

as of 31 December 2004

(Amounts in US dollar)

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION COMMITTED (GBP 30,000,000)		56,691,848.13 ^{ai}
Less: Loss arising from change in value of currency		<u>(92,521.52)</u>
Amount received (GBP 2,825,000)	4,287,500.00	
Undrawn contribution (GBP 27,175,000)	<u>52,311,826.61</u> ^{bi}	56,599,326.61
Add: Income from investments	84,379.86	
Interest income	2,852.98	
Gain/(loss) on foreign exchange transactions	<u>(128.68)</u>	<u>87,104.16</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE		56,686,430.77
Less amounts utilized for:		
Project expenditures (Statement 2)	(2,919,606.73)	
Bank administration cost	(145,980.34)	
Financial expense - bank charges	<u>(1,440.79)</u>	<u>(3,067,027.86)</u>
UNUTILIZED BALANCE		53,619,402.91 ^{ci}
Less: Outstanding commitments	(12,900,393.27)	
Reserve for ADB administration cost	<u>(645,019.66)</u> ^{di}	<u>(13,545,412.93)</u>
UNCOMMITTED BALANCE		40,073,989.98
Less: TA Approved But Not Yet Effective		
AFG/4461: Poverty Reduction & Rural Renewable Energy Devt	(750,000.00)	
AFG/4541: Natural Resources Management & Poverty Reductn	(810,000.00)	
KGZ/4405: The Study on Pricing Systems & Cost-Recovery Mechanisms for Irrigation	(300,000.00)	
KGZ/4408: Study on Impact of Land Reform on Agriculture, Poverty Reduction, & Environment	(400,000.00)	
LAO/4406: Capacity Building for Smallholder Livestock System	(550,000.00)	
LAO/4434: Poverty Reduction Thru Land Tenure Consolidation, Partcpatry NR Mgt & LCSB	(850,000.00)	
LAO/4481: Integrating the Poor in Regl Trade thru Industrial Std Devt - Phase II	(700,000.00)	
PAK/4414: Non-Formal Primary Educ & Functional Literacy for Rural Women in SBAP	(400,000.00)	
PAK/4443: Mobilization of Grassroots Stakeholders for Pro-Poor Social Service Delivery	(500,000.00)	
PAK/4537: Implementing Public Safety Reforms in 4 Districts of Prov of Punjab	(950,000.00)	
SRI/4442: Psychosocial Health in Conflict-Affected Areas	(400,000.00)	
TAJ/4423: Devt of Community Based Micro-Hydropower Supply in Remote Rural Areas	(800,000.00)	
VIE/4453: Supporting the Preparation of the Law on Gender Equality	(370,000.00)	
VIE/4480: Developing Agricultural Insurance	(600,000.00)	
Reserve for ADB administration cost	<u>(419,000.00)</u>	<u>(8,799,000.00)</u>
UNCOMMITTED BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR NEW COMMITMENTS		<u>31,274,989.98</u>

^{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 2004.

^{c/} Represented by:

Cash in bank		51,556.06
Investments		1,095,155.60
Accrued interest		720.98
Undrawn contribution (GBP 30,000,000 less GBP 2,825,000)		52,311,826.61
Advances		180,019.07
Less: Interfund payable	(661.80)	
Accrued expenses	<u>(19,213.61)</u>	<u>(19,875.41)</u>
		<u><u>53,619,402.91</u></u>

^{d/} Represents 5% of the outstanding commitments.

(0.00)

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
Statement of TA Expenditures - Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (Regional Program)
(United Kingdom and Northern Ireland)
As of 31 December 2004
(Expressed in US dollars)

TA Title	TA No./Type	Date of Approval	TA Amount ^{1/}	Amount Received	Project Expenditures ^{2/}			Outstanding Commitments	Expected TA Completion Date	Completed TAs	
					Cumulative up to 31/12/03	Transactions 01/04-31/12/04	Cumulative up to 31/12/04			Unutilized Commitment (Savings)	Financial Completion Date
			(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E) = (C) + (D)	(F) = (A) - (E)	(G)	(H) = (A) - (E)	(I)
Bangladesh											
Strengthening Capacities for Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation	4303/AO	19Dec03	350,000.00		0.00	19,613.00	19,613.00	330,387.00	31-Mar-06		
Social Protection of Poor Female Workers in the Garment Sector	4320/BAN	16Mar04	420,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	420,000.00	31-May-06		
Total - Cambodia			<u>770,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>19,613.00</u>	<u>19,613.00</u>	<u>750,387.00</u>			
Cambodia											
Sustainable Employment Promotion for Poor Women	3947/AO	24Oct02	400,000.00		81,926.11	166,684.16	248,610.27	151,389.73	31-Mar-05		
Engagement of a Poverty Consultant at the Cambodia Resident Mission	3955/AO	16Dec03	78,500.00		14,371.53	2,692.00	17,063.53	61,436.47	30-Oct-06		
Preventing Poverty and Empowering Female Workers Affected by Changing International Trade	4131/AO	20Jun03	600,000.00		26,710.31	246,602.79	273,313.10	326,686.90	31-Mar-05		
Participatory Poverty Assessment of the Tonle Sap	4283/AO	18Dec03	325,000.00		0.00	17,676.63	17,676.63	307,323.37	21-Jun-06		
Capacity Building of the Tone Sap Poverty Reduction Initiative	4376AO	16Aug04	500,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	500,000.00	30-Sep-06		
Total - Cambodia			<u>1,903,500.00</u>		<u>123,007.95</u>	<u>433,655.58</u>	<u>556,663.53</u>	<u>1,346,836.47</u>			

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<u>Lao People's Dem Rep.</u>											
Social Protection in the the LAO PDR: Issues and Options	4009/AO	04Dec02	150,000.00		0.00	51,933.63	51,933.63	98,066.37	31-Dec-04		
Integrating Poor in Regional Trade through Standard Setting for Private Sector Development	4108/AO	09May03	150,000.00		72,100.00	74,418.89	146,518.89	3,481.11	31-May-04		
Study of Gender Inequality in Women's Access to Land, Forests & Water	4339/AO	20May04	250,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	250,000.00	31-May-06		
Marketing Support for Organic Produce of Ethnic Minorities	4392/LAO	17Sep04	600,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00	30-Sep-07		
Total - Lao People's Dem. Rep.			<u>1,150,000.00</u>		<u>72,100.00</u>	<u>126,352.52</u>	<u>198,452.52</u>	<u>951,547.48</u>			
<u>Nepal</u>											
Promoting Pro-Poor and Gender Responsive Service	4353/AO	07Jul04	<u>200,000.00</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>200,000.00</u>	31-Jan-06		
<u>Pakistan</u>											
Enhancing Capacity for Resource Management and Poverty Reduction in Punjab	4015/AO	05Dec02	230,000.00		15,434.95	131,735.33	147,170.28	82,829.72	30-Jun-05		
Support for Poverty Reduction Initiatives in Pakistan	4277/AO	18Dec03	63,500.00		0.00	18,260.00	18,260.00	45,240.00	31-Jan-06		
Determinants and Drivers of Poverty Reduction and ADB's Contribution in Rural Pakistan	4319/AO	05Mar04	400,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	30-Apr-06		
Total - Pakistan			<u>693,500.00</u>		<u>15,434.95</u>	<u>149,995.33</u>	<u>165,430.28</u>	<u>528,069.72</u>			

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<u>Sri Lanka</u>											
Community Information Services for the Poor	4110/AO	09May03	800,000.00		176,702.00	420,647.69	597,349.69	202,650.31	31-May-05		
<u>Viet Nam, Soc. Rep. of</u>											
Transport Services Networks for the Poor	4028/AO	11Dec02	350,000.00		40,712.58	156,582.38	197,294.96	152,705.04	31-Mar-05		
Early Childhood Development for the Poor	4205/AO	24Oct03	450,000.00		0.00	131,648.16	131,648.16	318,351.84	31-Mar-05		
Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Vietnam	4252/AO	12Dec03	73,000.00		0.00	14,286.78	14,286.78	58,713.22	4-Feb-06		
Developing the Social Security System	4276/AO	18Dec03	750,000.00		0.00	134,219.00	134,219.00	615,781.00	31-Dec-05		
Support for Pro-Poor Health Policies	4331/AO	28Apr04	500,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	500,000.00	30-Jun-06		
Total - Vietnam			2,123,000.00		40,712.58	436,736.32	477,448.90	1,645,551.10			
<u>Regional</u>											
Fifth Agriculture and Natural Resources Research at CGIAR Centers	5945/RG	13Feb03	905,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	905,000.00	28-Feb-05		
Pacific Fund for Strategic Poverty Analysis	6061/RG	31Oct02	50,000.00		48,208.92	0.00	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		3,713.39	845.23	4,558.62	595,441.38	31-Dec-05		
Str & Collection of Purchasing Power Parity Data in Selected DMs	6088/RG	19Dec02	800,000.00		0.00	2,255.00	2,255.00	797,745.00	31-Dec-05		
NGO Partnerships for Poverty Reduction	6109/RG	21June04	1,000,000.00		19,955.00	495,120.82	515,075.82	484,924.18	30-Jun-06		

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Reduction in Upland Communities in the Mekong Region through Improved Forestry	6115/RG	04Aug03	800,000.00		0.00	166,381.20	166,381.20	633,618.80	31-Oct-05		
Promoting NGO Support for Poverty Reduction in the Greater Mekong Subregion	6118/RG	22Aug03	150,000.00		12,308.00	31,805.85	44,113.85	105,886.15	28-Feb-05		
Social Protection Index for Committed Poverty Reduction	6120/RG	27Aug03	300,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	300,000.00	15-Aug-05		
Study of Urban Violence in Asia Towards More Effective Urban Upgrading	6130/RG	30Oct03	150,000.00		0.00	21,517.88	21,517.88	128,482.12	28-Feb-05		
Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific	6157/RG	18Dec03	400,000.00		0.00	60,095.60	60,095.60	339,904.40	31-Mar-06		
Pilot Project on Institutionalizing Civil Society Participation to Create Local ProPoor Budget	6170/RG	06Apr04	400,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	400,000.00	31-Mar-05		
Making Resource Allocation Pro-Poor and Participatory in the Pacific	6175/RG	16June04	500,000.00		0.00	42,441.92	42,441.92	457,558.08	31-Dec-06		
Building Capacity for Participatory Approaches to Poverty Reduction	6176/RG	14Jul04	300,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	300,000.00	30-Jun-06		
Establishing Legal Identity for Social Inclusion	6188/RG	30Sep04	575,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	575,000.00	31-Dec-05		
Preventing Trafficking of Women & Childrn & Promoting Safe Migratn in GMS	6190/RG	04Oct04	700,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	700,000.00	30-Jun-06		
Pilot Test Partcpatry Assess Methodologies For Sust & Eqtbl Water Supply	6224/RG	23Dec04	550,000.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	550,000.00	31-Dec-05		
Total Regional			8,180,000.00		84,185.31	820,463.50	904,648.81	7,275,351.19			
Total Approved and Effective TAs			15,820,000.00		512,142.79	2,407,463.94	2,919,606.73	12,900,393.27			

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Add: TA projects/programs approved by UKNI and ADB but not yet effective											
Capacity Building for Smallholder Livestock Systems	4406/AO	11Oct04	550,000.00								
Poverty Reduction Thru Land Tenure Consolidation, Partcpatry NR Mgt & LC&	4434/AO	17Nov04	850,000.00								
Non-Formal Primary Educ & Functional Literacy for Rural Women in SBAP	4414/AO	13Oct04	400,000.00								
Mobilization of Grassroots Stakeholders for Pro-Poor Social Service Delivery	4443/AO	22Nov04	500,000.00								
Supporting the Preparation of the Law on Gender Equality	4453/AO	26Nov04	370,000.00								
Developing Agricultural Insurance	4480/AO	15Dec04	600,000.00								
The Study on Pricing Systems & Cost-Recovery Mechanisms for Irrigation	4405/AO	11Oct04	300,000.00								
Study on Impact of Land Reform on Agriculture, Poverty Redctn, & Environm	4408/AO	12Oct04	400,000.00								

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Dev't of Community Based Micro-Hydro power Supply in Remote Rural Areas	4423/AO	05Nov04	800,000.00								
Poverty Reduction & Rural Renewable Energy Development	4461/AO	03Dec04	750,000.00								
Integrating the Poor in Reg'l Trade thru Industrial Std Dev't-Phase II	4481/AO	15Dec04	700,000.00								
Implementing Public Safety Reforms in 4 Districts of Prov of Punjab	4537/AO	23Dec04	950,000.00								
Natural Resources Management & Poverty Reduction	4541/AO	23Dec04	810,000.00								
Psychosocial Health in Conflict-Affected Areas	4442/AO	22Nov04	400,000.00								
			<u>8,380,000.00</u>								
				£	2,825,000.00						
				\$	4,287,500.00						
			<u>24,200,000.00</u>	\$	<u>4,287,500.00</u>						

^{1/} US\$ equivalent of TA Grant at the time of TA approval.

^{2/} Actual disbursements.

^{3/} Represents the actual US\$ equivalent of contributions received.