

**MONTHLY REPORT ON SMALL-SCALE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS
NOT EXCEEDING \$150,000 PER PROJECT
August 2002**

1. Participatory Rural Sector Planning and Development, Kazakhstan

Executing Agency : Ministry of Agriculture
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 01 July 2002^a
Date Approved : 01 August 2002

Project Description :

The TA will assist the Government of Kazakhstan to strengthen its medium term strategic planning process, and help institutionalize stakeholder participation in the development of the rural sector strategic plans and investment programs. Key outcomes of the TA will be (i) improved understanding among agencies of the strategic approach to rural development—particularly on issues such as the extent of public sector assistance to private farms and enterprises under market economy, extent of public infrastructure investment required in rural areas, cost recovery, and financing mechanisms for identified investment requirements; (ii) greater awareness of stakeholder participation in rural development; and (iii) better understanding of the agencies and stakeholders of ADB's current policies and priorities. These outputs will lead to the identification of specific rural development projects for possible ADB assistance and an agreed process to improve stakeholder participation in rural sector strategic planning process.

Status of Consulting Services: No action has been taken to recruit consultants.

2. North Eastern Region Urban Sector Profile, India

Executing Agency : Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 22 February 2002
Date Approved : 19 August 2002

Project Description :

The purpose of the TA is to assist the Government to address urgent sectoral issues and to guide the ADB in future urban sector operations. The study will prepare a sector profile, involving a participatory consultation process designed to bring together representatives of the Government, the funding community, nongovernment organizations, representatives of the poor and the disadvantaged communities, and the private sector. The output will be an urban sector profile report that addresses existing conditions and trends, with a strong emphasis on poverty assessment and evaluation of the prospects for the urban economy, identifies credible and willing development partners among urban local governments, produces an action-oriented urban development strategy for the region, and determines prioritized and consistent interventions suitable for the ADB assistance in programs, projects, pilot schemes, and TA for implementing the strategy. The urban sector profile will not duplicate but compliment with other donor agencies' ongoing and anticipated activities in the region.

Status of Consulting Services: No action has been taken to recruit consultants.

^a Waiver to publish in ADB Business Opportunities approved by Management.

3. Technical Assistance to Support Privatization in the Banking Sector, Mongolia

Executing Agency	:	State Property Committee
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	25 June 2002
Date Approved	:	23 August 2002
Project Description	:	

The purpose of the TA is to promote development of the financial sector as a catalyst for economic growth, through participation in the Government's bank privatization program. Part A of the TA will, in cooperation with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), assess the financial position and management of the Trade and Development Bank (TDB), focusing on the quality of its assets, credit and risk management, human resources, legal status, accounting standards, ownership structure, and the Government policy environment in which it operates. Part B of the TA will assess the financial position and management of the Agriculture Bank of Mongolia (ABM), focusing on the same due diligence activities mentioned in Part A. In addition, the TA will assess the medium-term potential of recently introduced lending products, in-country management capacity and effectiveness of USAID supported training programs, branch structure and profitability, overall value, current and potential future ownership arrangements, and appropriateness of an ADB investment with other partners such as IFC and private investors. The TA will prepare a report on the findings of Part A and B and, if appropriate, a recommendation for investment in TDB and/or ABM, subject to successful tenders of these banks and a review of the private investors.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of consultants is underway.

4. Support for Good Local Governance, Indonesia

Executing Agency	:	National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS)
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	100.0
ADBBO Listing	:	12 July 2002
Date Approved	:	27 August 2002
Project Description	:	

The objectives of the TA are (i) strengthening governance in elected, administrative, and service delivery bodies at the provincial and district levels through ADB project assistance; (ii) ensuring observance of good governance standards in ADB sponsored projects; and (iii) encouraging sustainable poverty reduction as the cornerstone of regional public administration and service delivery. The TA is envisaged to be the first of the building blocks to achieve a sound governance climate in regional governments.

Status of Consulting Services: No action has been taken to recruit consultants.

5. Reassessment of the Regional Transport Sector Strategy, Regional

Executing Agency	:	Asian Development Bank
TA Type	:	Study
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	14 June 2002
Date Approved	:	09 August 2002

Project Description :

The purpose of the TA is to strengthen ADB's assistance for regional economic cooperation in the transport sector through updating the existing ADB regional transport sector study. The output will be a strategy that would guide and provide a roadmap for ADB assistance in regional transport in Central Asia for the coming 3-5 years.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of individual consultants underway.

6. Regional Public Goods and Regional Development, Regional

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Conference
TA Amount (\$'000) : 100.0
ADBBO Listing : 13 August 2002
Date Approved : 19 August 2002

Project Description :

The major objective of this regional technical assistance is to promote the awareness and benefits of regional cooperation by facilitating discussions on regional public goods. It is proposed to organize a conference on November 7 and 8, 2002 which would provide greater publicity and operational emphasis to the role of regional public goods and ultimately their key role in economic development. The specific objectives of the conference are to: (i) support information-sharing between ADB and IDB on successful regional cooperation approaches and experiences in the two regions. The Conference would highlight key issues related to design and delivery of regional public goods provided by regional development institutions and/or by regional cooperative efforts; (ii) provide a venue for the constructive exchange between experts and practitioners from various development institutions; and (iii) help establish a network of experts and practitioners on regional public goods to strengthen and broaden the knowledge base on the design and provision of regional public goods.

Status of Consulting Services: No consultants required.