

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

1. Feasibility Study of Borovoe-Petropavlovsk Road Rehabilitation Project, Kazakhstan

Executing Agency : Committee of Roads, Ministry of Transport and Communications
TA Type : Project Preparatory
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 30 July 2002
Date Approved : 04 November 2002

Project Description :

The purpose of the TA is to assist the Government prepare a proposal for improving the road from Borovoe to Petropavlovsk with external financing. It will supplement the Islamic Development Bank (IDB)-financed feasibility study of the Borovoe-Petropavlovsk Road Rehabilitation Project. The IDB study commenced in October 2002. The three specific outputs expected from the TA are: (i) review of the IDB-financed feasibility study with particular reference to the relevant ADB Guidelines on poverty, social, economic and distributional analysis; (ii) assessment of national road maintenance needs and development of a conceptual plan for developing a National Pavement Management System (NPMS); and (iii) preparation of a report outlining the feasibility of the Project and detailing the conceptual plan of the NPMS.

Status of Consulting Services: Longlist of consultants to be prepared in January-February 2003.

2. Strengthening Consumer and Stakeholder Communication for Madhya Pradesh Power Sector Reform, India

Executing Agency : Government of Madhya Pradesh (GMP)
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 04 May 2001
Date Approved : 05 November 2002

Project Description :

The TA will support GMP in building awareness of and gaining support from consumers and stakeholders on the power sector reform. The TA will assist GMP in developing a comprehensive communication strategy and implementing it through modalities suitable for each consumer group and stakeholder.

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

3. Strengthening Accountability Mechanisms II, Thailand

Executing Agency : Office of the Ombudsman and Administrative Court
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 2 July 2002
Date Approved : 05 November 2002

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is that the offices of the ombudsman and administrative court will become more capable of enforcing higher standards of government transparency and accountability. TA outputs will help the offices of administrative court and ombudsman to (i) to carry out comprehensive functional reviews; (ii) formulate and implement recommendations for improving organizational performance; (iii) enhance skills and competencies among staff; and (iv) prepare and disseminate public awareness materials on roles, functions, and how to access services.

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

4. Development of an Energy Conservation Program, Tajikistan

Executing Agency : Ministry of Energy
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 120.0
ADBBO Listing : 23 October 2002
Date Approved : 08 November 2002

Project Description :

The purpose of the TA is to assist the Government develop an energy conservation program. A key objective will be to make all consumers aware of the potential for saving energy and to encourage them to use delivered energy more efficiently and to reduce wastage. For this, the factors contributing to wastage of energy will first be investigated. The output will be an action plan, including demand side management initiatives for reduction of energy consumption especially by public enterprises, and improvement of the existing legal and regulatory framework in support of energy conservation.

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

5. Social Sector Expenditure Review, Kazakhstan

Executing Agency : Ministry of Economy and Budget Planning
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 28 October 2002
Date Approved : 15 November 2002

Project Description :

In the context of the daunting challenges faced by the Government in the social sector, and in order to facilitate an informed policy dialogue with the Government for social sector development, it is important to analyze and establish the adequacy of Government allocations to the social sector to meet its policies and priorities and in achieving the millennium development goals. The purpose of the TA is to provide the Government with an analytical assessment to identify how the total public resources budgeted for health and education can achieve better health and education outcomes. The Review will serve as a guide for the Government in determining its public investment for health and education, and will help the Government and ADB to formulate strategies for future cooperation in the social sector.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of consultants is underway.

6. Debt Management Strengthening of the Economic Affairs Division, Pakistan

Executing Agency	:	Economic Affairs Division (EAD), Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	28 June 2002
Date Approved	:	20 November 2002

Project Description :

The overall objectives of the TA are to strengthen EAD's capacity to record, monitor and analyze the country's external debt obligations, as well as enable it to undertake debt sustainability analysis. The software used by the EAD for debt management is the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System (DMFAS) version 5.2, which was used to generate data for the Paris Club meeting held in December 2001. The TA will assist EAD to fully operationalize DMFAS for users, utilize the potential of the software to generate more detailed user defined reports, carry out systems analysis and documentation of processes in debt management, upgrade hardware as necessary and carry out extensive staff training in use of DMFAS 5.2 and related software.

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

7. Improving the Climate for Investment and Productivity in Indonesia: An Approach to Long-Term Poverty Reduction, Indonesia

Executing Agency	:	Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs Central Agency of Statistics
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	17 September 2002
Date Approved	:	25 November 2002

Project Description :

The goal of the TA of investment climate and productivity study (ICS) is to help improve the environment for doing business in Indonesia, thereby fostering private sector development that contributes to sustained poverty reduction. To this end, the ICS will: (i) examine the institutional factors and policies that make up the investment climate by probing, at the micro (firm) level, the stumbling blocks and constraints to private investment and productivity growth; (ii) examine how Indonesia compares with other countries in terms of competitiveness and productivity; and (iii) identify effective ways to deal with impediments to investment and productivity growth. The results of the survey and analysis will provide policymakers with suitable guidance on how to enhance the climate for investment and productivity, making it possible for Indonesia to catch up with the leaders in international competitiveness.

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

8. Enhancing Capacity of Infrastructure Agencies in Management of Involuntary Resettlement, Bangladesh

Executing Agency : Roads and Highways Department (RHD), Ministry of Communications
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 8 October 2002
Date Approved : 28 November 2002

Project Description :

The goal of the TA is to minimize risks of displacement resulting from involuntary resettlement under infrastructure projects. The objective of the TA is to strengthen the institutional capacity of the infrastructure agencies in planning and management of involuntary resettlement. The TA will develop and conduct a resettlement management-training program to enhance the institutional capacity of major infrastructure agencies, including RHD. The training program will focus on the intricacies of social analyses, resettlement planning, implementation and monitoring. The capacity will be enhanced so that the social and policy issues can be identified and mitigation measures developed that will build upon and strengthen the existing capacity and commitment to ensure equitable treatment of affected persons. The expected components/outputs of the TA will be as follows: (i) commitment of the infrastructure agencies to improving planning and implementation of involuntary resettlement will be strengthened; (ii) awareness and understanding of ADB's policy on involuntary resettlement will be enhanced; (iii) skills of the infrastructure agencies' staff in planning and managing involuntary resettlement will be improved; and (iv) key areas of policy interventions necessary for the formulation of a national involuntary resettlement policy will be identified and assessed.

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

9. Public Opinion Surveys on Judicial Independence and Accountability, Regional

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Others
TA Amount (\$'000) : 100.0
ADBBO Listing : 25 June 2002
Date Approved : 07 November 2002

Project Description :

The main purpose of the TA is to pilot-test in DMCs promotion of public awareness of judicial independence and accountability through public opinion surveys and information dissemination in selected DMCs. It includes, among others, (i) conducting public opinion surveys on judicial systems on national level in cooperation with the courts and civil society organizations in selected DMCs; (ii) promoting collaboration among relevant civil society organizations in information and media strategies for judicial reform; and (iii) supporting judiciary's initiatives to improve citizens' understanding of the court system and access to justice. Outputs of the TA will include the following: (i) innovative research design including sampling frame and instruments for the systematic use of public opinion polls as a necessary complementary tool in the evaluation of court performance, (ii) indicative data from focus group discussions and statistically reliable information from polls on court operations, (iii) formal or informal collaboration among civil society organizations in research with clear judicial reform agenda, and (iv) public participation and input to judiciary's action plan that incorporates strategic, educational, and outreach activities to improve citizens' understanding of court operations.

Status of Consulting Services: Direct selection of consultants is underway.