

QUARTERLY SUMMARY REPORT ON APPROVED (A) PREPARATORY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS NOT EXCEEDING \$1,500,000 AND (B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS NOT EXCEEDING \$225,000 (January—March 2009)

(A) PREPARATORY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

TA-7253-AZE: Power Distribution Development Investment Program

Executing Agency : Azerenergy Joint-Stock Company
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 12 Nov. 2008
Date Approved : 20 March 2009

The impact of the Investment Program will be a more adequate and reliable power supply to support sustained economic growth and social development. The proposed Investment Program will be closely linked to the Government's State Program on the Development of the Fuel and Energy Sector of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Its outcome will be expanded and upgraded power distribution facilities. Outputs of the PPTA will include (i) a power sector assessment; (ii) a distribution sector roadmap with updated investment and capacity development program; (iii) an MFF investment program; (iv) technical design and due diligence assessment for selected Tranche 1 under MFF financing; (v) financial and economic analysis, and financial management assessment; and (vi) social safeguard framework, and social and poverty assessment.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7230-BAN: Second Crop Diversification

Executing Agency : Department of Agriculture Extension of the Ministry of Agriculture
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 21 October 2008
Date Approved : 29 January 2009

About 75% of Bangladesh's population and 85% of the country's poor live in the rural areas. The expected impact of the TA will be increased food production and value-addition to food crops, enhanced farm incomes, increased employment opportunities, and higher levels of food security. The outcome of the TA will be a project design that the Government and ADB will have agreed upon for a project to be financed by ADB loan. The TA will: (i) assist the Government to identify suitable areas for an expansion of crop diversification activities within the Northwest and neighboring regions; (ii) formulate in detail the scope of the expanded project; (iii) identify the most appropriate participating agencies, including both government and non-government agencies and identify any capacity building requirements of these agencies; (iv) determine the most appropriate project implementation arrangements; (v) determine the flow of funds for project activities; (vi) ensure that the project will comply with ADB and the Government's safeguard requirements in terms of land acquisition, resettlement, environmental impact, gender, ethnic minorities, financial management and governance; (vii) formulate monitoring and evaluation requirements ; (viii) provide a sound economic, financial and social justification for the project; and (ix) ensure the sustainability of project interventions. The envisaged loan project will (i) demonstrate and disseminate up-to-date technology in alternative, high value crops; (ii) mobilize farmer groups and provide credit packages and technical guidance to small and marginal farmers to allow them to engage in high value crop production; and (iii) provide guidance and credit assistance for post-harvest value addition and marketing. By increasing rural incomes, the project is expected to directly improve food security, allowing the rural

population without access to sufficient land resources to guarantee their own staple rice crop supply, the income needed to purchase rice as and when needed.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7231-BAN: City Region Development

Executing Agency : Dhaka City Corporation, Khulna City Corporation and Local Government Engineering Department
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,400.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 22 October 2008
Date Approved : 29 January 2009

Bangladesh has experienced increased urbanization since independence in 1972. Rapid urbanization has created growing demand for urban infrastructure and services, such as piped water, sewerage, drainage, roads and bridges. Immigrants from rural areas compete for limited employment opportunities, and tend to be in the low income group settling in urban slums without access to basic services. Notwithstanding growth in contribution of urban areas to the national gross domestic product from 26% in 1973 to 42% in 1999, the city regions are prevented from materializing their full economic growth potential due to lack of long-term vision, strategic planning and coordination among various public entities. And, despite recent expansion of certain industries such as readymade garments, Bangladesh is lagging in enhancing its competitiveness and promoting private sector activities. In this view, ADB launched a flagship study "Inclusive Growth and Good Governance for Clustered Cities Development: Innovative Interventions in South Asia", under the second package of Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) 6337: Development Partnership Program for South Asia. Roundtable discussions were held in 2008 with key stakeholders who positively reacted to the new approach to urban development in Bangladesh. This project preparatory technical assistance will be built upon the conceptual framework to be developed under the RETA, and make a concrete program for capital investments and institutional developments to be funded under the ensuing City Region Development Project.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7242-BAN: Power System Efficiency Improvement

Executing Agency : Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,200.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 7 Oct. 2008
Date Approved : 20 February 2009

The anticipated impact of the TA (and outcome of the ensuing loan) is increased access to electricity from the present 43% to 60% of the national population by 2015. The TA will contribute to ensuring a sustainable, affordable, and reliable power supply in the country while improving efficiency in the power sector. Its outputs will be (i) an overall power sector assessment report for energy efficiency; (ii) an update of electricity demand forecast to define medium-term investment requirements for energy efficiency improvements in power generation, transmission and distribution systems; (iii) a comprehensive power sector efficiency strategy and subsector specific action plans to address both supply and demand side management measures; (iv) a study report for initial benchmark indicators with regard to sector performance and efficiency; (v) an energy efficiency capacity development program; (vi) identification of candidate energy efficiency components for ADB financing; and (vii) a feasibility study report including scope of the ensuing project, cost estimates, technical, financial, economic and

socioeconomic analysis, environmental analysis, and social assessment. The TA will be implemented over a 9-month period commencing in April 2009 and finishing in December 2009.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7059-GEO: Ajara Bypass Roads Development (Supplementary)

Executing Agency : Road Department of the Ministry of Economic Development
TA Amount (\$'000) : 280.0
Business Opportunities Listing : Not listed
Date Approved : 26 March 2009

During contract negotiations in January 2009, the Consultants pointed out the inadequacy of the original survey budget given that the project would pass severely mountainous areas and involve a number of tunnels and bridges. An increase in the TA's budget for survey costs is required for in-depth engineering, socioeconomic, and environmental surveys to establish the engineering viability of the project and comply with safeguard requirements. In addition to the increase in survey costs, supplemental funds are needed for a major change in TA scope to prepare a multitranche financing facility (MFF) for rehabilitating and upgrading of the entire Tbilisi-Akhalkalaki-Akhaltshikhe-Batumi Road including the Ajara bypass roads. This fits into the Government's strategy of developing a virtual road network that will allow an alternative connectivity other than the East-West Highway in an emergency situation. Preparing the MFF will include development of a sector road map, a policy framework, a land acquisition and resettlement framework and a cumulative impact assessment, and an investment program.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants' work is ongoing.

TA-7237-IND: Rural Roads Sector III

Executing Agency : Ministry of Rural Development
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 30 October 2008
Date Approved : 20 February 2009

The TA is expected to improve connectivity of rural communities in participating states to markets, district headquarters, and other centers of economic activity in a cost effective and sustainable manner through the ensuing loan. Outputs and key activities include: (i) a review of existing institutional arrangements, capacities, procedures and contractual arrangements to identify, design, and construct roads under Rural Roads Sectors I and II (RRS-I and -II) to propose improvements and measures for implementation within Rural Roads Sector III (RRS-III); (ii) a review of existing institutional arrangements, financing, capacities, procedures and contractual arrangements for maintaining rural roads constructed under RRS-I and RRS-II to propose improvements and measures for implementation within RRS-III; (iii) road safety audits on the sample detailed project reports (DPRs) and constructed roads to propose processes and measures to improve road safety for implementation within RRS-III; (iv) a feasibility study of the 500 kilometer (km) sample of roads proposed for RRS-III, 100 km from each participating state, including all social and environmental studies/surveys required by respective ADB policies; (v) achieving project readiness, including assisting and monitoring the advance procurement (including safeguard compliance) and reviewing a sample of DPRs and bid documents for proposed RRS-III roads; (vi) finalization of a design and monitoring framework for ensuing loan, development of a survey methodology and assistance with a baseline survey; and (vii) provision

of all necessary on-the-job training and knowledge transfer, including assisting and training of the project implementation unit/committee staff on safeguard procedures.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7228-KGZ: Issyk-Kul Sustainable Development

Executing Agency : Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
TA Amount (\$'000) : 800.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 13 November 2008
Date Approved : 20 January 2009

Issyk-Kul is the world's second largest saline lake and is a Ramsar site of globally significant biodiversity, forming part of the Issyk-Kul Biosphere Reserve. The lake forms a significant part of the Issyk-Kul Oblast area, and contributes to the economic growth by providing tourism opportunities. The TA will develop a Project drawing from the Kyrgyz Republic's Integrated Development Plan for Issyk-Kul Zone (2006) and the Economic and Ecological Development Strategy for Issyk-Kul (2008). It will: (i) identify technically and environmentally sustainable subprojects that address the environmental preservation of the lake and contribute to the economic growth of the region; (ii) identify legal and regulatory measures, policy measures and capacity development needs that will regulate development in the zone, improve service delivery, improve institutional sustainability, and address social development in the region resulting in improved quality of life; (iii) prepare action plans for implementing the Strategic Environmental Management Plan identified in the Integrated Development Plan for Issyk-Kul Zone and complementing identified investments; and (iv) explore options of ensuring financial and institutional sustainability of subprojects inter-alia comprising output-based aid and clean development mechanisms.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7227-LAO: Small and Mini Hydroelectric Development

Executing Agency : Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM)
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 24 September 2008
Date Approved : 14 January 2009

The Project proposes to assist the MEM in (i) preparing a policy for implementing sections of the amended Electricity Law related to tariff setting, to encourage development of medium to mini hydroelectric power projects that will provide electricity from a clean and renewable source of energy for domestic use, and to allow the Government to approve such development proposals; (ii) after screening and ranking identified projects, prepare a feasibility study of one or two small or mini hydropower (with an installed capacity of up to 5 MW each) projects that would benefit from the work under (i); and (iii) preparing the necessary documentation for Clean Development Mechanism registration that would serve as a model for replication by other small-scale hydroelectric power project developments. This is in line with ADB's strategy 2020 and the country strategy and program for Lao PDR, which encourages the development of environmentally friendly generating facilities to tackle climate change and promote clean energy, and is also consistent with the Government's energy sector plan to provide electricity to 90% of the population by 2020, and Eletricité du Laos' energy strategy and road map on power generation.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7229-NEP: Community Irrigation

Executing Agency	:	Department of Irrigation of the Ministry of Water Resources
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	750.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	21 Oct. 2008
Date Approved	:	29 January 2009

Increasing agricultural productivity is crucial to reducing poverty and promoting food security in Nepal, for which irrigation is an essential entry point. Yet only 43% of the country's net cultivated area is irrigated, and their productivity remains low due to inefficient system operation. The country strategy and program for Nepal recognizes the critical importance of improving the performance of existing irrigation systems and expanding access to irrigation, with effective integration of agriculture and livelihood support services. In this context, there is significant scope for enhancing rural livelihoods by improving irrigation access to poor marginal and small holders with community-driven minor irrigation. The Community Irrigation Project (CIP) will build upon the experience of the recently completed Loan No. 1609: Community Groundwater Irrigation Sector Project, and nongovernment organization works to promote minor/micro irrigation systems including low-cost drip and sprinkler irrigation to produce high value crops, with development of various water-harvesting techniques. The TA will produce: (i) an agreement on decentralized CIP implementation arrangements; (ii) due diligence on environmental and social safeguards deemed adequate by ADB; and (iii) CIP design documents that are acceptable to ADB and the Government of Nepal.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7258-PHI: Agusan River Basin Integrated Water Resources Management

Executing Agency	:	Department of Natural Resources and Environment
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,180.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	5 Dec. 2008
Date Approved	:	24 March 2009

The proposed project responds to the perceived need to improve management in the Agusan River Basin (ARB) with the active partnership of local government units (LGUs), communities, national government agencies and other stakeholders. It will help ensure optimum utilization and sustained delivery of benefits derived from the river basin while improving the socio-economic well-being of the impoverished communities within the ARB. The communities are largely dependent on the agricultural and natural resources found within the basin. The proposed investment projects will translate the Agusan Master Plan, prepared by TA No. 4552: Master Plan for the Agusan River Basin, into tangible development actions to assist the LGUs to meet the urgent development objectives. The TA is expected to prepare: (i) an updated situation and stakeholder analysis in ARB and a Basin Development Roadmap to guide Government and development partners in the development and management of the Basin resources and (ii) a design of an investment project, including components for: (a) institutional strengthening, (b) water resources management and development, (c) environment enhancement and protection, (d) disaster risk management, and (e) project management.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7040-PRC: Silk Road Ecosystem Restoration (Supplementary)

Executing Agency	:	State Forestry Administration
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	335.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	Not listed
Date Approved	:	18 March 2009

The TA was approved on 14 December 2007 and is expected to design a loan project with Global Environment Facility (GEF) grant cofinancing. The GEF-financed activities will be prepared in coordination with the TA and will focus on aspects of the Project that will generate environmental benefits of global significance, including biodiversity conservation through management of protected areas in the project area, carbon sequestration, promotion of sustainable land management practices, and institutional capacity building for effective implementation of the GEF-financed activities. In the course of TA implementation, GEF approved the Project Development Fund (PDF) for \$335,000. The scope of the PDF is to prepare possible investment activities for the GEF cofinancing of the Project. The additional financing and activities to be undertaken under the TA have been discussed and agreed with the Government.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultant's work is ongoing.

TA-7236-TAJ: Cotton Processing and Market Development (Small-scale)

Executing Agency	:	Office of the President
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	225.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	6 February 2009
Date Approved	:	16 February 2009

Cotton is an important product for Tajikistan as a key export earner and the largest "employer". Sector performance in terms of productivity, processing, quality and marketing benchmarks have all fallen below international benchmarks, causing underinvestment and losses in the value chain. The impact of the TA will be improved cotton sector profitability. This will be achieved through a project which delivers efficient cottonseed, and fiber and marketing supply chains, in Khatlon province. The outcome is a project design and feasibility study that supports the development of a public private partnership to establish up to two modern and efficient ginning operations with farmer ownership and under international agribusiness management, acceptable to the Government and ADB. A strategic private sector partner will be selected to lead the implementation of the commercial aspects of the project.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants' work is ongoing.

TA-7240-UZB: Water Supply and Sanitation Services

Executing Agency	:	Uzbekistan Communal Services Agency
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	30 January 2009
Date Approved	:	20 February 2009

Despite relatively high nominal network coverage (about 82%), the water supply service is available only 3 hours a day in most areas of Uzbekistan. Provision of a safe and reliable water supply and sanitation (WSS) is a key challenge due to badly deteriorated infrastructure, outdated planning and management, inappropriate service standards, limited accountability and finance, and weak institutions. ADB is assisting the Government in preparing a sector strategy

that will serve as a basis for the development of a medium term investment program and a policy framework. The investment program is to be supported by ADB and other financiers, including the Government. The proposed TA will translate the WSS strategy into priority investments and interventions and prepare a suitable multitranches financing facility program to finance these investments and interventions.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7245-VIE: Transport Connections in Northern Mountainous Provinces

Executing Agency : Ministry of Transport
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 1 August 2008
Date Approved : 5 March 2009

The impact of the TA will be to improve the road network in the northern mountainous provinces to meet economic development needs of the area to support poverty reduction initiatives and activities in the region. Its outcome will be a project design and feasibility study agreed upon by ADB and the Government that will be the basis for the project loan. Its scope will include two outputs: (i) an assessment of selected provincial and district roads in the six project provinces, and feasibility studies for prioritized improvement works of selected road sections; and (ii) an assessment of key road sector issues in the provinces, including institutional and implementation arrangements for the proposed project. It will assess improving provincial road infrastructure in the six provinces of Bac Kan, Cao Bang, Ha Giang, Tuyen Quang, Yen Bai, and Lao Cai in the northern mountainous region of Viet Nam. Component activities will include (i) assessing options for improvement works for the selected long list of road sections in each province; (ii) developing a methodology and selection criteria to prioritize selection of roads to improve; (iii) analyzing transport links to determine economic and technical feasibility, and social and environmental impacts; and (iv) preparing a matrix to rank road sections to form projects for a range of funding levels. It will also address road sector policy issues at the provincial level, including (i) vehicle overloading, (ii) road safety for users and local communities, (iii) road maintenance practices and development of a sustainable financing mechanism, (iv) governance, and (v) weak institutional capacity.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS NOT EXCEEDING \$225,000**TA-7256-IND: Strengthening Implementation of Social and Environmental Safeguard Requirements in Projects in India (Capacity Development)**

Executing Agency	:	Department of Economic Affairs
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	225.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	Not listed
Date Approved	:	10 February 2009

The TA's expected impact is improved compliance with social and environmental requirements of ADB and the Government of India. It is expected to minimize implementation delays, help achieve timely disbursements, and reduce complaints from affected people. The improved capacity of executing agencies (EAs) in implementing social and environmental safeguards will strengthen the efficiency through adoption of international best practices, thereby enhancing overall safeguards performance and project quality. The TA will focus on enhancing knowledge and skills of EAs in the area of safeguards implementation, and sharing project specific experiences among EAs to enable them to adopt to best practices in a structured manner to suit its requirements. Activities include on-the-job training, training workshops and case studies.

Status of Consulting Services : Resettlement and Social Development Consultant was recruited on 15 April 2009.

TA-7254-KAZ: Capacity Development for Due-Diligence Assessments of Projects (Capacity Development)

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Transport Communications (MOTC)
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	225.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	Not listed
Date Approved	:	24 March 2009

A multitranche financing facility is helping finance the construction and reconstruction of about 480 km. of highway sections in the Zhambyl Oblast. A \$340 million loan for Tranche 1 was approved on 30 December 2008 and a \$210 million loan for Tranche 2 is included in the lending program for 2009. The Tranche 2 project will involve land acquisition and will have environmental impacts. The Government has prepared a land acquisition and resettlement plan and an environmental impact assessment. However, ADB's project team concluded that these reports need to be significantly improved to meet ADB's requirements. The TA will build the executing agency's (EA) capacity in economic and safeguard assessments of projects by helping the EA refine and finalize of its economic and safeguard due-diligence reports acceptable to ADB.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-4813-PRC: Strengthening Flood Management Sustainability in Hunan Province (Supplementary) (Advisory)

Executing Agency	:	Hunan Provincial Government
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	60.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	Not listed
Date Approved	:	26 January 2009

The first two of the TA's three components have been successfully completed. Component 3 still needs to be conducted with additional consultants' inputs and funds to continuously assist the Hunan Provincial Water Resources Department in the preparation of resettlement plans, ethnic minority development plans, and in project management. The increase in TA budget will cover the increase in consultants' inputs by 8.1 person-months in order to (i) assist the provincial project management office (PPMO) in managing the Project by improving coordination between the PPMO, 35 local project management offices, and other agencies such as external monitors for resettlement and ethnic minority development; and (ii) write up findings of Component 2 of the TA, a flood insurance feasibility study, for publication in the ADB Sustainable Development Working Paper Series.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultant's work is ongoing.

TA-6403-REG: Seminars on Capacity Building for Project Implementation and Administration for 2007-2009 (Supplementary) (Regional)

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 220.0
Business Opportunities Listing : Not listed
Date Approved : 16 March 2009

The TA, approved on 27 June 2006, supports implementation of country seminars and originally envisaged approximately nine country project implementation and administration seminars (PIAs) in priority developing member countries, two sub-regional (Pacific and Central Asia) seminars and a regional seminar at ADB headquarters. These seminars are designed to address deficiencies in project implementation and administration by upgrading or updating the project implementation, administration and procurement skills of executing agency and project management/implementation unit personnel. Based on participants' feedback, the seminars have been highly appreciated. Given the success of the PIAs, 16 country PIAs, six special PIAs and 2 regional PIAs are expected to be implemented before the TA's expected completion date of June 2009. The additional funding will finance the unforeseen increase in PIA seminars and to implement the originally unforeseen special PIAs.

Status of Consulting Services : No consulting services are required.

TA-6477-REG: Preparing a Response in the Pacific to High Prices (Supplementary) (Regional)

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 84.7
Business Opportunities Listing : Not listed
Date Approved : 16 February 2009

The purpose of the TA, approved on 12 August 2008, is to identify, develop, and implement a short-, medium- and long-term response plan to the commodity price increases in selected Pacific developing member countries (PDMCs). The TA paper provided indicative terms of reference for the recruitment of several specialists needed for the project. Among these, a Social and Poverty Specialist/Nutritionist and a Social Protection Specialist are currently on board to assess the performance of existing social safety nets and ways these could be strengthened to better respond to adverse living conditions and cope with adverse shocks. It

has been determined that the consulting work, which would include field work in six PDMCs, would be needing an additional 6 person-months to accomplish. The supplementary funding will finance the additional inputs needed. To date, PARD has engaged six international consultants and the following activities have been completed: (i) rapid assessment on the impact of oil and food price increases, (ii) publication of an ADB study document on global economic downturn, and (iii) launch of an energy conservation fair in Marshall Islands. Social safety net study will be completed in the 2nd to 3rd quarters of 2009.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants' work is ongoing.

TA-7233-REG: Asian Development Review Workshop (Research and Development)

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 100.0
Business Opportunities Listing : Not listed
Date Approved : 9 February 2009

The Asian Development Review (ADR) is the Bank's premier scholarly research journal. It contains discussions on major development issues, results of research carried out by Bank staff, and contributions from scholars and specialists concerned with Asian and Pacific affairs. The TA aims to provide a forum for enhancing the ADR and to boost ADB's role as a knowledge creator and disseminator through the conduct of a workshop that will bring together experts on outward foreign direct investment issues facing developing Asia. Papers presented during the workshop will be peer-reviewed and those of suitable quality will be published in a special issue of the ADR. The TA will also attempt to rekindle interest in the ADR through more aggressive publicity efforts and strengthened quality of inputs.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultant's work is ongoing.

TA-7235-REG: Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2009 (Research and Development)

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
Business Opportunities Listing : Not listed
Date Approved : 9 February 2009

Over the last 39 years, the *Key Indicators* has become the flagship annual statistical data book of ADB. It has proven to be a useful and successful compendium of economic, demographic, social and financial statistics for policy makers and data users and is widely disseminated within and outside ADB. The TA will support activities for the production of the *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2009 (Key Indicators 2009)*. Such activities will contribute to the improved quality of data presented in the country, regional and Millennium Development Goals tables and the analytical content of the theme chapter of *Key Indicators 2009*. This will ensure that *Key Indicators 2009* continues to be a source of relevant and high-quality data for analysis.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants' work is ongoing.

TA-7255-REG: Greater Mekong Subregion: Railway Strategy Study (Policy and Advisory)

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 28 November 2008
Date Approved : 19 March 2009

Under the TA, international consultants will: (i) briefly review international trade within the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) to and from neighboring subregions and its likely development in future, based on existing data and recent previous analysis; (ii) review the nationally proposed routes and upgrade projects relevant to subregional traffic, and preliminarily assess their technical, economical and financial viability; (iii) assess the scope for implementing common GMS systems and standards for railway infrastructure and cross-border operations where appropriate and recommend alternatives where common standards cannot reasonably be established for technical or economical reasons; (iv) assess the magnitude of investments required to implement an integrated GMS railway network connected to the neighboring subregions by 2025; and (v) draft a prioritized list of integration projects to be implemented before 2025. As a result of these activities, the Project is expected to develop a strategy for integrating the GMS railways into a subregional network that effectively interconnects the GMS countries and connects the GMS railway network with railways in neighboring subregions.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA-7239-SRI: Strengthening Road Development Authority in Implementation of the Environmental Management Plan of the Southern Transport Development Project (Capacity Development)

Executing Agency : Ministry of Highways and Road Development
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
Business Opportunities Listing : Not listed
Date Approved : 12 February 2009

The Southern Transport Development Project (STDP) was approved in November 1999 to finance construction of the expressway project in Sri Lanka, connecting Kottawa (Colombo District) and Godagama in Matara District. The Road Development Authority (RDA) is responsible to implement the overall Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in all sections of the highway. Implementation of STDP has experienced difficulties related to ADB's social and environmental safeguards policies. The TA will provide hands-on training and assistance to the staff of the Environmental and Social Division of the RDA and the field RDA staff of STDP to strengthen RDA's capacity to supervise and control the implementation of the EMP, monitor the socioeconomic impacts of the Project and disclose the monitoring report to the public.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.