

**MONTHLY REPORT ON SMALL-SCALE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS
NOT EXCEEDING \$150,000 PER PROJECT
October 2004**

1. Fisheries Sector Review, Fiji Islands

Executing Agency : Ministry of Fisheries and Forestry (MFF)
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 1 June 2004
Date Approved : 7 October 2004

Project Description :

The purpose of the TA is to facilitate a restructured Fisheries Department (FD) with complementary legislative changes in place to achieve better management and economic return from the sector. The output will be a comprehensive sector review encompassing (i) analysis of the sector's current and potential contribution to the economy, (ii) identification of appropriate role and responsibilities of MFF/FD to assist private sector development and expansion, (iii) identification of market and non-market failures, (iv) assessment of competitiveness and factors affecting competitiveness in different fisheries industries, (v) identification of necessary policy and organizational changes to enable the fisheries sector to contribute to economic growth whilst maintaining food security, and (vi) identification of possible public sector investment projects.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of consultants has been completed.

2. Development of the Transport Sector, Review of Policy and Regulations, Viet Nam

Executing Agency : Ministry of Transport
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 3 March 2004
Date Approved : 12 October 2004

Project Description :

The TA will assist the Government of Viet Nam to promote national socio-economic development and to implement the Comprehensive Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy through development of the transport sector. The TA will undertake a study to identify priority projects that are suitable for user financing through tolls or other means, and can be funded using a range of ADB's lending instruments. The study will build on previous studies and analysis by ADB and others, notably the *Study on the National Transport Development Strategy in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam*, and will encompass two main areas of investigation: (i) a broad review of the need and scope for development of user financed transport with a view to identify modes and geographical areas where user financed transport services may be viable, and (ii) to study in more detail the scope for developing commercially based toll roads and urban passenger and freight transport systems. In both subsectors the needs have already been identified but the scope for implementation needs further review.

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

3. Privatization Support, Samoa

Executing Agency : State-owned Enterprise (SOE), Ministry of Finance
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 1 June 2004
Date Approved : 20 October 2004

Project Description :

The goal of the TA is to improve the environment for the private sector, thereby directly supporting the strategic focus of ADB's country assistance strategy for Samoa. The purpose of the TA is to help rationalize the Government's SOE portfolio, in support of the Government's policy for SOE ownership, performance and divestment. The TA's output will be the privatization of up to three fully-owned SOEs.

Status of Consulting Services: Direct selection of consultant has been approved.

4. Preparing the Forest Plantations Sector, Lao PDR

Executing Agency : Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
TA Type : Project Preparatory
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 15 October 2004
Date Approved : 26 October 2004

Project Description :

The goal of the TA is to help develop a productive and commercially viable forest plantations subsector in Lao PDR. The purpose is to refine and finalize suitable alternative institutional arrangements for the new investment project. Three distinct outputs of the TA will (i) prepare a policy and regulatory framework; (ii) finalize the detailed model of a full-package service new outfit – Lao Plantation Development Corporation – to support livelihood and commercial plantations and small and medium size enterprises; and (iii) finalize the model of new regulatory authority – Lao Forest Authority – providing one-window service to large private sector industrial plantations. These actions are a prerequisite to develop a vibrant, commercially viable, and a sustainable forest plantations subsector.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of consultants is underway.

5. Preparation of National Resettlement Policy Framework, Nepal

Executing Agency : Ministry of Population and Environment
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 13 August 2004
Date Approved : 28 October 2004

Project Description :

The TA will help the Government to develop a national resettlement policy framework for implementation of development projects in a socially responsible manner so that project affected people are able to improve or at least restore their economic and social status after project implementation. The TA will also raise awareness on resettlement issues among key stakeholders, including Government line agencies, particularly those involved in infrastructure development.

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

6. Greater Mekong Subregion Infrastructure Connections in Northern Lao PDR, Regional

Executing Agency : Ministry of Communications, Transport, Post, and Construction
TA Type : Study
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 13 October 2004
Date Approved : 20 October 2004

Project Description :

The TA will assist the Government to implement the Northern Region Infrastructure Development Strategy. The goal is to induce economic development and, thereby, reduce poverty through improvements to connectivity and efficiency of transport and power networks in Northern Lao PDR within national and regional frameworks. The purpose of the study is to identify investment projects to develop transport and power networks that address the poor state of basic infrastructure and connections between the countries of the northern GMS.

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