

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

**1. Social Protection in the Lao PDR: Issues and Options, Lao PDR**

**Executing Agency** : Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare  
**TA Type** : Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : 15 November 2002  
**Date Approved** : 04 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The overall objective of the TA is to develop a greater understanding of risks and vulnerabilities that the population of Lao PDR face and to develop recommendations to mitigate these risks and vulnerabilities. Specifically, the TA will: (i) provide a detailed labor market assessment, focusing on the current structure of the labor market and future directions for development (Component A); (ii) build an understanding of existing informal and formal social protection strategies (Component B); (iii) develop an institutional assessment of the key actors (Component C); and (iv) prepare recommendations for ADB on future actions (Component D). These four interrelated components will be developed independently with their own milestones and schedules. The final results will be presented as four independent reports with a short integrated report and executive summary that will tie them together.

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

**2. Reaching the Rural Poor with Primary Health Care, Cambodia**

**Executing Agency** : Asian Development Bank  
**TA Type** : Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 39.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : 12 December 2002  
**Date Approved** : 06 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The objective of the TA is to improve the understanding of policies and programs that can improve the access of the poor to health services and reduce their out-of-pocket expenditures on health care in Cambodia. In particular, the TA will examine in detail the impact of NGO contracting of health services on the poor. Building on the earlier evaluation, the study will rigorously test the following relationships: (i) impact of contracting on increasing the health service coverage of the poor and (ii) impact of contracting on reducing private out-of-pocket expenditures on health care by the poor.

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

### 3. Investment Climate and Productivity Study for Sri Lanka: An Approach to Long-Term Poverty Reduction, Sri Lanka

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Ministry of Enterprise Development
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Advisory and Operational
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	22 November 2002
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	06 December 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 Sri Lanka, 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 Sri Lanka 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 Sri Lanka to catch up with the leaders in international competitiveness.

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

### 4. Industrial Sector Review and Strategy, Kazakhstan

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT)
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Advisory and Operational
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	2 December 2002
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	11 December 2002

#### **Project Description :**

The objective of the TA is to promote economic growth by developing a forward and outward looking industrial sector strategy and policy which helps broaden and diversify industrial base, while promoting employment generation. The TA will support MIT to identify industry- and oblast-specific development constraints and to design a program for industrial development till 2010 that builds non-oil sectors and leads to more stable and widely shared growth. The TA will also be a first step to establish a policy dialogue on policy areas relevant for industrial development.

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

### 5. Private Sector Assessment, Cambodia

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Advisory and Operational
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	25 November 2002
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	13 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The purpose of the TA is the preparation of a diagnostic review and strategic assessment of Cambodia's private sector. The TA will assess the major policy, legal, and institutional issues facing the sector. The output of the TA will also include focused analyses and identification of priority issues in the sector. The TA will have two main components: first, a comprehensive private sector assessment (PSA), which covers the agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, further categorized into formal and non-formal, as well as domestic and foreign, sectors; second, within the PSA, a diagnostic analysis and prioritization will be developed for the small- and medium-sized enterprise (SME) sector. These components will provide key inputs to sharpen ADB's CSP as well as offering inputs in formulating the PPTA for SME sector program loan.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Recruitment of consultants is underway.

**6. Enhancing Access to Comprehensive Insurance Cover after September 11, Pakistan**

**Executing Agency :** Ministry of Finance  
**TA Type :** Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000) :** 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing :** 30 September 2002  
**Date Approved :** 13 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The TA will assist the Government in finetuning the design of the political risk guarantee (PRG) facility and finalizing implementation mechanisms. In particular, the TA will ensure that the risks that are counter guaranteed by the Government are clearly spelled out in line with industry definitions and market needs, to avoid ambiguity in case of a claim event. The TA will also propose adequate structures for risk layering to ensure that only risks that cannot be offset in the market are passed on to the Government.

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

**7. Dissemination of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS), Cambodia**

**Executing Agency :** General Secretariat of the Council for Social Development (GS-CSD)  
**TA Type :** Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000) :** 80.0  
**ADBBO Listing :** 16 July 2002  
**Date Approved :** 16 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The TA is part of a larger, longer-term, and coordinated effort to operationalize the NPRS, including i) strengthening key coordination mechanisms at GS-CSD; ii) better understanding and public debate of poverty issues in Cambodia; and iii) capacity building activities with line ministries for operationalizing poverty reduction planning and program design.

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

## 8. Needs Assessment in Conflict-Affected Areas, Sri Lanka

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Subcommittee on Immediate Humanitarian and Rehabilitation Needs in the North and East (SIHRN)
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Advisory and Operational
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	Not listed <sup>a</sup>
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	16 December 2002

### **Project Description :**

The goal of the TA is to prepare programs that will restore basic living conditions for people affected by the conflict in the northeast of the country; the purpose is to prepare an assessment of rehabilitation needs in the eight districts making up the northeast province, and in the three adjacent districts also affected by the conflict; and the output will be a detailed needs assessment report. The report will (i) support Sri Lanka's efforts to mobilize funding for a large-scale medium- to long-term rehabilitation program in the conflict-affected areas, with particular focus on the proposed Tokyo donor conference; (ii) assist with crystallizing the administrative and institutional changes that will be needed in the area, and nationally, for a program of this magnitude to be effectively implemented; and (iii) assist with bringing the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and its agencies into the planning process in a cooperative and consultative manner.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Recruitment of consultants is underway.

## 9. Strengthening the National Accountability Bureau, Pakistan

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	National Accountability Bureau (NAB)
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Advisory and Operational
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	120.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	Not listed <sup>a</sup>
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	18 December 2002

### **Project Description :**

The goal of the TA is to improve the capacity of NAB in performing broader functions of prevention of corruption and becoming more effective, scientific and integrated throughout all levels of government in the performance of its functions. The TA will enable NAB to prioritize its functions better and strengthen its investigative capability and deliver better performance in identifying, preparing and prosecuting corruption cases. The dependence of NAB on other government agencies for performing such functions will be reduced and its output in combating and preventing corruption would increase. The TA will also assist NAB in developing better coordination with agencies and activities for preventing corruption at the provincial and local government levels by developing NAB's capacity to provide advice and training. The TA will complement the ADB supported Access to Justice Program and Decentralization Support Program in strengthening NAB'S capacity to implement those parts of these programs which have a direct or indirect impact on prevention of corruption.

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

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<sup>a</sup> Waiver to publish in ADB Business Opportunities approved by Management.

## 10. Enhancing the Public Investment Programming Database System, Kazakhstan

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Ministry of Economy and Budget Planning (MEBP)
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Advisory and Operational
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	60.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	22 November 2002
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	18 December 2002

### **Project Description :**

The objective of the TA is to enhance the database management system for public sector investment projects to (i) incorporate additional information requirements stipulated by the Government's revised public investment programming and approval procedures, following the recent reorganization and establishment of MEBP; (ii) incorporate requirements for project implementation monitoring in the database system; and (iii) provide the facility of accessing the database for information and reporting purposes through the Internet. The TA will result in an enhanced database management system that effectively supports the Government to efficiently coordinate, plan, appraise and monitor the implementation of public sector investment projects.

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

## 11. Sindh Devolved Social Services, Pakistan

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Department of Planning and Development, Government of Sindh (GOS)
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Project Preparatory
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	120.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	17 December 2002
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	18 December 2002

### **Project Description :**

The purpose of the TA is to help plan a project that will make devolved social services more effective, efficient and equitable in a sustainable manner and achieve major impact on the education and health status of the poor in Sindh Province. The TA will assist to carry out the institutional, financing, and social analysis and planning for the Project, and support planning activities of GOS.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Recruitment of consultants is underway.

## 12. Restructuring of Technical Education and Vocational Training (TEVT) System, Pakistan

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Ministry of Education
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Project Preparatory
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	2 December 2002
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	18 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The main objective of the Project will be to improve the quality and relevance of TEVT programs to build a high quality workforce and address the issues of skills mismatch and unemployment among rural and urban youths. It will monitor labor market demands and draft action plans to further improve the TEVT systems in the country. Special attention will be given to women and rural poor. The main output of the TA will be the comprehensive assessment of the TEVT subsector in meeting the labor market demands. In addition, action plans will be available that could guide the Government and donors on how to support the TEVT systems in Pakistan to make them more responsive and efficient. As a result of the TA study, the Government will be able to better understand labor market demands, ways and means of restructuring the TEVT systems, and the feasibility of the action plans.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Recruitment of consultants is underway.

**13. Retraining of Legal Professionals in a Market Economy II, Mongolia**

**Executing Agency :** Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs  
**TA Type :** Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000) :** 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing :** 4 October 2001  
**Date Approved :** 20 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The TA will (a) assist the Legal Retraining Center (LRC) trainers in strengthening their training curriculum and materials and their teaching skills; (b) develop additional programs, including fee-based courses in legal English and computer skills (and possibly bar preparation materials), to enhance the LRC's financial self-sustainability; (c) extend the training to remote provinces (i.e., *aimags*) where ADB financial assistance is required to support the costs of such training; (d) enhance the LRC's information resources, legal research capacity and publications; and (e) ensure the integration of the LRC in the Government's overall capacity building program for the legal sector. The expected outcomes of the TA are for LRC to offer even stronger, more tailored training programs, train about 250 more Mongolian lawyers, and generate more financial revenues. Monitorable indicators will include (a) number of lawyers trained; (b) knowledge acquired (tested through examinations); (c) revenues earned by the LRC; and (d) feedback from trainees and institutions sending trainees to the LRC.

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

**14. Technical Monograph on Participatory Development, Regional**

**Executing Agency :** Asian Development Bank  
**TA Type :** Training  
**TA Amount (\$'000) :** 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing :** 5 July 2002  
**Date Approved :** 16 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The purpose of the TA is to update ADB's stock of knowledge on participation specifically on aspects that have developed since the last few years, emphasizing on the participatory development practices of ADB's DMCs. The TA will produce a technical monograph and training material for the use of ADB staff and their DMC counterparts. More generally, the TA outputs will also be useful as a sourcebook in providing practical knowhow for facilitating stakeholder involvement in decision-making processes related to project design, implementation and other aspects of development administration and policy formulation.

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

**15. Policies, Institutions and Resources for Accelerating Growth in the Central Asian Republics, Regional**

**Executing Agency :** Asian Development Bank  
**TA Type :** Study  
**TA Amount (\$'000) :** 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing :** 25 November 2002  
**Date Approved :** 18 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The objectives of the TA are to: (i) assist the governments of CARs in designing their strategies for accelerating growth rates to 2010; (ii) assess the resource requirements and external borrowing programs for that purpose; and (iii) contribute to enhancing regional cooperation amongst CARs and between Central and South Asia. These inputs will directly contribute to the department's work on forthcoming CSP and SCSP to be undertaken in 2003.

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

**16. Exploring Sri Lanka's Subregional Economic Cooperation Potential, Regional**

**Executing Agency :** Asian Development Bank  
**TA Type :** Study  
**TA Amount (\$'000) :** 60.0  
**ADBBO Listing :** 18 October 2002  
**Date Approved :** 18 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The objective of the TA is to assist the Government in preparing an analytical and empirical study for identifying subregional economic cooperation potential for Sri Lanka. The study will include the following: (i) an analysis of Sri Lanka's economic structure, with emphasis on trade, investment, private sector cooperation, tourism, transport, environment, and human resources; (ii) an assessment of Sri Lanka's sectoral comparative advantages; (iii) an analysis of economic opportunities for Sri Lanka in subregional cooperation; (iv) quantification of the possible benefits for Sri Lanka from subregional cooperation; and (v) evaluation of Sri Lanka's institutional capacity for undertaking subregional cooperation initiatives. The findings and output of the TA study

will be used as a basis for further discussion among the concerned stakeholders. It could be followed by further subregional cooperation activities such as high-level discussions as well as identification of concrete undertakings in areas and sectors with neighboring countries to realize the potential benefits of subregional cooperation for Sri Lanka.

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

**17. Seminar on Regional Challenges to Governance: Experiences of Asia and Latin America, Regional**

**Executing Agency** : Asian Development Bank  
**TA Type** : Conference  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 75.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : Not listed<sup>a</sup>  
**Date Approved** : 18 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The main objective of the TA is to examine applied practices and strategies to overcoming governance challenges in Asia by critically examining case studies from Latin American and Asian countries. The issues identification includes (among others), effective instruments in each region for civil service reform and anti-corruption, participatory civil society, and state reform agenda for each region and country clusters. Furthermore, the TA would enable ADB practitioners and civil servants from among its DMCs to critically think about ways to (i) apply different experiences and approaches, and (ii) develop a closer knowledge network with practitioners in governance from the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and Latin America (facilitated by the ADB-IADB Partnership Agreement). A comparative report will be prepared describing and analyzing different case studies and disseminated to a critical mass within ADB, to participants and other interested audience.

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

**18. Exploring the Maldives' Subregional Economic Cooperation Potential, Regional**

**Executing Agency** : Ministry of Finance and Treasury  
**TA Type** : Study  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 60.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : 17 October 2002  
**Date Approved** : 18 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The main objective of the TA is to provide an analytical and empirical basis through a study for identifying subregional economic cooperation potential of the Maldives with South Asia countries, particularly Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The topics to be covered include the following: (i) analysis of the Maldives' economic structure, with particular focus on trade, investment and private sector cooperation, tourism, transport, fisheries, and human resources; (ii) assessment of the Maldives' sectoral comparative advantages; (iii) analysis of opportunities for the Maldives regarding subregional economic cooperation; (iv)

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quantification of the likely gains for the Maldives from subregional economic cooperation; and (v) evaluation of the Maldives' institutional capacity for undertaking subregional economic cooperation initiatives. A workshop will subsequently be held to discuss the findings and output of the TA and separate SSTAs to be undertaken for Pakistan and Sri Lanka and identify concrete undertakings in areas and sectors with subregional economic cooperation potential.

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

#### 19. Private Sector Cooperation in the SASEC Subregion, Regional

**Executing Agency** : Asian Development Bank  
**TA Type** : Study  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : 6 November 2002  
**Date Approved** : 19 December 2002

**Project Description :**

The goal of the TA is to help the subregion to acquire the necessary competitive edge in the world market. To achieve the goal, the TA will explore improved private sector cooperation within the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) subregion for efficient utilization of trade opportunities, manpower, and infrastructure. If the efforts of each country on economic restructuring, greater specialization in production, and human resource development are combined with subregional cooperation based on complementarities and comparative advantage of the national economies, they will form a "virtuous circle" and promote economic activity in the subregion.

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