

**ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

**TAR: PRC 37689**

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

(Financed by the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund)

**TO THE**

**PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

**FOR**

**DEVELOPING A POVERTY MONITORING SYSTEM AT THE**

**COUNTY LEVEL**

**December 2004**

## CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 11 November 2004)

Currency Unit	–	yuan (CNY)
CNY1.00	=	\$0.1208
\$1.00	=	CNY8.2765

## ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
ERDI	–	Development Indicators and Policy Research Division
LGOP	–	Leading Group on Poverty Reduction
NBS	–	National Bureau of Statistics
PRC	–	People's Republic of China
RETA	–	regional technical assistance
RSO	–	Rural Survey Organization
SSB	–	State Statistical Bureau
TA	–	technical assistance
UNDP	–	United Nations Development Programme

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLASSIFICATION

<b>Targeting Classification</b>	–	General intervention
<b>Sector</b>	–	Law, economic management, and public policy
<b>Subsector</b>	–	Economic management
<b>Theme</b>	–	Governance
<b>Subtheme</b>	–	Public governance

## NOTE

In this report, "\$" refers to US dollars.

This report was prepared by A. Asra, Development Indicators and Policy Research Division,  
Economics and Research Department.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. In October 2003, on the request of the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) included in its country strategy and program (2004–2006) for the PRC a technical assistance (TA) project, tentatively entitled Developing Poverty Impact Indicators and Assessment Methodology for ADB Operations.

2. In May 2004, a Fact-Finding Mission visited Beijing and Hebei Province to hold extensive discussions and consultations on the proposed TA's nature, objectives, scope and coverage, key activities, and implementation arrangements and other related issues. The meetings were conducted with relevant officials of the proposed Executing Agency for the TA project (the Rural Survey Organization [RSO] of the National Bureau of Statistics [NBS]), other government agencies, and aid agencies. At the end of the Mission, a general understanding on the TA objective, scope, financing, and implementation arrangements was reached,<sup>1</sup> including the change of the title of the TA project to Developing a Poverty Monitoring System at the County Level.<sup>2</sup> The TA framework is in Appendix 1.

## II. ISSUES

3. The demand for county-level information in the PRC is growing for the following reasons.<sup>3</sup> First, rural poverty<sup>4</sup> is concentrated in relatively small areas or poverty pockets, including counties, townships, and villages.<sup>5</sup> Second, poverty reduction projects are increasingly designed to target small and vulnerable areas and the poor directly. Third, there is an increasing demand for monitoring the outcomes and impacts of the projects at the subnational level. Finally, there has been an increasing use of subnational statistics for allocating limited resources.

4. The current poverty monitoring system of rural PRC still focuses on producing national and provincial statistical information; hence, there is lack of information at the county level.<sup>6</sup> This lack of information on poverty-related indicators at the county level is due mainly to lack of capacity of RSO county offices to produce the required indicators. In recent years, a series of reforms related to an indicator system, and methods of data collection, processing, and dissemination were carried out at the national level, and the capacity of NBS, including RSO, and its provincial branches has improved. But statistical capacity at the county level has not been strengthened; therefore, there is no capability to produce a sufficient number of poverty-related indicators<sup>7</sup> to reflect the county's social and poverty condition.

---

<sup>1</sup> The TA first appeared in *ADB Business Opportunities* (Internet edition) in June 2004.

<sup>2</sup> The change was made because the ongoing RETA 6073: Developing Tools for Assessing the Effectiveness of ADB Operations in Reducing Poverty that also covers the PRC, will develop poverty impact indicators and assessment methodology of projects. The present TA will use some of the RETA results.

<sup>3</sup> Intensive discussions with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Leading Group on Poverty Reduction (LGOP) confirm the need for developing a county-level poverty monitoring system. Further discussions with officials of the Ruan Ping County of Hebei Province support this view.

<sup>4</sup> Poverty includes income and nonincome poverty.

<sup>5</sup> ADB's Poverty Profile for the PRC (March 2004) notes that nearly half of the rural poor live in counties not classified as national poverty counties.

<sup>6</sup> Particularly on social statistics/poverty-related indicators, as until the end of the last century, the state statistical system of the PRC dealt mainly with economic statistics, due partly to a long history of economic planning mechanisms.

<sup>7</sup> Some indicators could be derived from the national sample surveys.

5. Because the current poverty monitoring system of rural PRC cannot supply the required county-level information, there is an urgent need to develop a county-level poverty monitoring system that can produce regular, relevant, and timely poverty-related indicators, which will help improve county-level targeting of poverty reduction projects and allow a better and more regular poverty impact evaluation. This need translates into the need to strengthen the capacity of RSO county offices<sup>8</sup> in providing such poverty-related indicators.

6. There are at least two reasons why RSO is requesting ADB assistance to develop a poverty monitoring system at the county level.<sup>9</sup> First, probably the strongest reason for supporting RSO and its county offices is that RSO is the only agency whose figures are considered official and it has a clear mandate to supply official statistics that should be used for policy and decisionmaking. The main job of RSO is to collect statistics, including rural statistics, while other government agencies carry out data collection activities to better steer their programs/projects and show their impacts. Improving the capacity of RSO county offices to produce the required statistical information will be instrumental in implementing a poverty monitoring system. Second, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Leading Group on Poverty Reduction (LGOP) have recently developed a broad framework for poverty monitoring, including an indicator system and institutional arrangements, but implementation of this framework is still unclear. This TA will develop a clear methodological approach<sup>10</sup> and implementation mechanism that can help RSO develop and implement a county-level poverty monitoring system.<sup>11</sup>

### III. THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

#### A. Purpose and Output

7. The TA will help RSO develop a county poverty monitoring system that provides timely, relevant, and quality statistical information useful for poverty-related analysis to support policy and decision-making processes. The emphasis will be on strengthening the capacity of RSO county offices in supplying the required statistical information for poverty monitoring. The information will be based on both survey data and administrative records. The main TA output will be a prototype of a county poverty monitoring system.<sup>12</sup>

#### B. Methodology and Key Activities

8. The TA activities will be carried out at Chuxiong Prefecture of Yunnan Province. There are three main reasons for selecting this prefecture: (i) it has only eight counties, making it

<sup>8</sup> In some counties, RSO has a separate county office, while in others, RSO county office/staff is part of the county State Statistical Bureau (SSB).

<sup>9</sup> The German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) has been piloting a poverty monitoring system in Jiangxi Province, using mainly a participatory approach, but it does not involve strengthening the county offices of RSO/SSB. As the variation in poverty-related indicators across the province is high, due to the fact that the PRC is a vast country, a poverty monitoring system applicable to a certain area may not be appropriate for other areas.

<sup>10</sup> For instance, the proposed monitoring system will produce indicators based on the survey (survey-based poverty correlates) and county-specific indicators derived from discussions/consultations with stakeholders.

<sup>11</sup> It will include streamlining the indicators system (which currently has more than 75 indicators) developed by the UNDP/LGOP broad framework for poverty monitoring, constructing feasible data-collecting quality control mechanism, strengthening analytical capability, and improving dissemination procedures. The TA will use the tools developed under RETA 6073 (footnote 2) and will provide information that can be used for poverty impact assessment of ADB projects.

<sup>12</sup> It will include poverty-monitoring instruments, such as poverty indicators, questionnaires, manuals, data processing procedure, and analytical procedures. The TA will also provide the necessary statistical information useful for assessing the poverty impact of ADB projects in the TA counties.

possible to cover all counties with the existing TA budget; (ii) all counties in this prefecture are included in the national poverty reduction project; and (iii) because some of its poor counties are adjacent to two ADB projects,<sup>13</sup> the TA can provide some useful information to assist in monitoring the impact of ADB projects on poverty reduction. The TA will be implemented in two stages: (i) a prototype of a poverty monitoring system in one county will be developed, tested, finalized, and implemented; and (ii) the system will then be replicated in the seven other counties at Chuxiong Prefecture, with some appropriate modifications. The poverty monitoring system will be based on the quantitative/statistical approach.<sup>14</sup>

9. Key activities in developing a poverty monitoring system will have six interrelated components: (i) determination of county poverty-related indicators; (ii) review of existing data collection mechanisms; (iii) development of a county poverty monitoring system; (iv) pilot test of the proposed system, finalization, and implementation in one county; (v) extension of implementation of the proposed system to the seven other counties; and (vi) dissemination. In addition, there will be a number of training activities. In implementing the key activities, the participation and involvement of relevant agencies will be ensured, particularly in translating statistical or poverty-related information into policy and interventions.

### **1. Determination of County Poverty-Related Indicators**

10. This component will involve discussions with various county stakeholders on several aspects of county-level poverty-related information, including (i) identification of the type of information required and (ii) its use for policy- and decision-making processes. Specifically, county poverty-related indicators will be identified and selected using survey data in a number of sectors<sup>15</sup> and a participatory approach through discussions with various stakeholders. Ethnic minority communities will be represented in the stakeholders discussions/consultations during this stage and also during TA implementation.

### **2. Review of Existing Data Collection Mechanisms**

11. There will be a detailed review of both (i) the primary data collection mechanism, and (ii) the secondary data collection mechanism.<sup>16</sup> The review will include available data that have been generated by both data collection mechanisms. The (income and nonincome poverty) data gap that should be bridged by a county poverty monitoring system will be identified.<sup>17</sup> The existing data flow within various data producers, as well as from data producers to data users, will also be examined as input in developing the county poverty monitoring system. In its data collection activities, the TA will produce subcounty information and disaggregated data at village level (especially in the poor villages), including those on ethnic-groups and labor migration. The TA will also look into the complementation of micro (county-level) with macro (prefecture- and provincial-level) data to provide a deeper understanding of the macro features of poverty.

<sup>13</sup> The 1998 completed Chuxiong-Dali road project and the ongoing railway project from Dali to Lijiang. Another reason for selecting Chuxiong is that in this prefecture there are many pockets of poverty among ethnic minorities.

<sup>14</sup> However, in identifying and selecting poverty-related indicators, a participatory approach will be used by having discussion/consultations with stakeholders.

<sup>15</sup> For infrastructure projects, the TA will use the results of RETA 6073 (footnote 2) to derive positive indicators (survey-based poverty correlates). To the extent possible, the methodology developed in RETA 6073 will be replicated for sectors other than infrastructure.

<sup>16</sup> Primary data collection activity refers to survey activities to collect data from primary sources (in this case, households), while secondary data collection activity refers to data compilation from secondary sources (administrative data).

<sup>17</sup> To the extent possible, the TA will identify data gaps on the microspecific (village-level) features and underlying causes of poverty.

### **3. Development of a County Poverty Monitoring System**

12. Some key activities of this component will be (i) finalizing an agreed-upon set of county poverty-related indicators, (ii) identifying a data collection mechanism for each indicator, (iii) constructing a set of data collection instruments to compile primary and secondary data required for deriving the indicators,<sup>18</sup> (iv) selecting appropriate procedure(s) to derive the indicators, and (v) determining ways of presenting the indicators.

### **4. Pilot Test of the Proposed System in One County**

13. The proposed system will first be pilot-tested in one county. The results of the pilot test will be analyzed, and the proposed system will be improved and implemented in the county.

### **5. Extension of Implementation to Seven Other Counties**

14. The developed system will be replicated in the seven other counties, with some appropriate modifications.

### **6. Dissemination**

15. This component will include (i) preparing the final report of the implementation of the county poverty monitoring system, and (ii) holding seminars/workshops/meetings at national, provincial, and county levels to discuss and disseminate the main TA findings to various Government officials, academia, and development partners.

16. The TA project will include some capacity-building activities, such as (i) an international workshop in Beijing on a poverty monitoring system, covering three to four countries in the region (local-level officials will be invited to participate), (ii) a study visit by a maximum four RSO officials to neighboring countries, and (iii) a number of in-country training activities and meetings (national, provincial, and county levels) covering discussions on poverty-related indicators, training activities for the survey, and the proposed poverty monitoring system.

## **C. Cost and Financing**

17. The total cost of the TA will be \$440,000 equivalent, of which \$100,000 is in foreign exchange and \$340,000 equivalent is in local currency (Appendix 2). The TA will be financed on a grant basis by the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund, covering the entire foreign exchange cost and \$200,000 equivalent of the local currency cost, and administered by ADB. The TA fund will be used mainly for the services of the international and domestic consultants, computing equipment, survey-related training and workshop activities, and support for the data collection activities. The Government will provide \$140,000 equivalent as counterpart contribution in the form of counterpart staff, office, local transport, and administration and support.

## **D. Implementation Arrangements**

18. The TA will be implemented over 28 months beginning in December 2004 and ending in March 2007. RSO of NBS will be the Executing Agency. The Development Indicators and Policy Research Division (ERDI) of ADB will administer the TA. RSO will appoint a project director who

---

<sup>18</sup> The instruments will have to be field-tested and improved before being adopted.

will be responsible for coordinating with ERDI, as well as for day-to-day project implementation, supervision of consultants' work, and review of the consultants' reports.

19. The TA will finance consulting services of 13 person-months: 3 international and 10 domestic. The consultants will be recruited individually, following ADB's *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants* and other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for selecting and engaging domestic consultants. The consultants will provide reports within 1 week after completing their assignment. The terms of reference of the consultants are in Appendix 3.

20. The TA will finance the purchase of computing equipment. RSO will procure computing equipment in accordance with ADB's *Guidelines for Procurement*. The TA will also finance the pilot survey and the actual survey activities (collecting data from primary sources), such as training supervisors and enumerators, preparing and printing survey instruments, field operation, data validation, data processing and analysis, and publication. Data collection from secondary sources (administrative data) will also be supported to complement the information obtained from the primary sources. RSO will publish the report on the county poverty monitoring system and county-level poverty-related data produced under the TA.

21. The TA will support both in-country and international training of RSO and its prefecture/county staff. A maximum of four RSO staff members will participate in a study visit to one or two countries in the region to learn about the local-level poverty monitoring system of those countries. The TA will also finance an international workshop in Beijing, a number of in-country workshops/seminars, and training courses for RSO statistical staff and the staffs of its prefecture and county offices. The Government will provide the necessary staff and venues for the training courses.

22. The TA funds will be disbursed to and liquidated by RSO in accordance with the procedures and requirements of ADB's advance payment facility.

#### **IV. THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION**

23. The President, acting under the authority delegated by the Board, has approved ADB administering technical assistance not exceeding the equivalent of \$300,000 to the Government of the People's Republic of China to be financed on a grant basis by the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund for Developing a Poverty Monitoring System at the County Level, and hereby reports this action to the Board.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK

Design Summary	Performance Indicators/Targets	Monitoring Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
<p><b>Goal</b> Effective policy analysis of the poverty reduction strategy available to county decision makers in Chuxiong Prefecture of Yunnan Province</p>	<p>Examples of policy reports by the county governor offices in Chuxiong Prefecture</p>	<p>Asian Development Bank (ADB) staff assessment 3 years after completion</p> <p>Survey of the county-level decision makers</p>	
<p><b>Purpose</b> A well-functioning county poverty monitoring system at eight Rural Survey Organization (RSO) county offices in Chuxiong Prefecture</p>	<p>Timely and regular availability of county poverty-related indicators in Chuxiong Prefecture</p>	<p>Review missions County publications</p>	<p><b>Risk</b> Government may not be willing to use the results of the system for poverty monitoring.</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clearer needs of types, frequency, and presentation form of statistical information for county poverty monitoring system</li> <li>2. Improved and well-tested county poverty monitoring system</li> <li>3. Improved capacity of the staff of the eight RSO county offices in Chuxiong Prefecture to monitor poverty</li> <li>4. Enhanced understanding of a maximum of four RSO staff on local-level poverty monitoring system</li> </ol>	<p>A county poverty-related indicator report is produced in first quarter of 2005 (Q1 2005).</p> <p>A number of county-level poverty-related indicators are available (Q1 2007).</p> <p>All key staff of eight RSO county offices (about 50 staff) are trained (Q1 2007).</p> <p>Maximum of four key RSO staff improve their knowledge on local-level poverty monitoring system (QII 2005).</p>	<p>Assessment of result by RSO and independent evaluation by ADB staff</p> <p>Assessment of result by RSO and independent evaluation by ADB staff</p> <p>Assessment of result by RSO and independent evaluation by ADB staff</p> <p>Assessment during review missions</p>	<p><b>Risk</b> The stakeholders may not actively participate in the discussions.</p> <p>Staff of RSO county offices may not be willing to maintain the system. County-level decision makers may not provide support to the system.</p> <p>Trained staff may not be retained.</p> <p>The staff may not be retained.</p>
<p><b>Activities</b> (numbering corresponding to that of outputs)</p>			

*Continued on next page*

<b>Design Summary</b>	<b>Performance Indicators/Targets</b>	<b>Monitoring Mechanisms</b>	<b>Assumptions and Risks</b>
<p>1.1 Determine county poverty-related indicators</p> <p>2.2 Review existing data collection mechanisms (for collecting primary and secondary data)</p> <p>2.3 Develop a county poverty monitoring system</p> <p>2.4 Carry out a pilot test of the proposed poverty monitoring system in one county</p> <p>2.5 Analyze the result of the test, finalize and implement the poverty monitoring system in one county</p> <p>2.6 Extend implementation to the seven other counties in Chuxiong Prefecture</p> <p>2.7 Disseminate the results</p>	<p>Start: QI 2005 Final report: end of QI 2005</p> <p>Start: mid-QI 2005 Final report: the end of QII 2005</p> <p>Start: QIII 2005 Final report: end of QIV 2005</p> <p>A set of county poverty-related indicators: end of QIII 2005</p> <p>A set of data collection instruments: end of QIII 2005</p> <p>A set of appropriate procedures to derive the poverty-related indicators: QIII 2005</p> <p>Presentation of guidelines to the indicators: QIV 2005</p> <p>QI 2006</p> <p>Mid-QI and final report by end of QI 2006</p> <p>Start: QII 2006 Finish: QIII 2006</p> <p>QI 2007</p>	<p>Review missions Consultants' reports</p> <p>Review missions Consultants' reports</p> <p>Review missions Consultants' reports</p> <p>Review missions Consultants' report</p> <p>Review missions Consultants' report</p> <p>Review missions Consultants' report</p> <p>Review missions Consultants' report</p> <p>Review missions RSO's report</p> <p>Workshop reports Consultants' reports</p> <p>Consultant's reports Review missions reports</p> <p>Workshop report</p>	<p><b>Risk</b> County decision makers/stakeholders may not actively participate.</p> <p>County decision makers/stakeholders and the staff of RSO county offices may not strongly support the activities.</p> <p>Strong support of county stakeholders to pilot the system may not be forthcoming.</p> <p>Strong support of county stakeholders to pilot the system may not be forthcoming.</p> <p>County decision makers/stakeholders may not participate in the workshop.</p> <p>Willingness of all county stakeholders to accept the system may not be forthcoming.</p> <p>RSO staff may not be available to provide the necessary support</p>

Continued on next page

<b>Design Summary</b>	<b>Performance Indicators/Targets</b>	<b>Monitoring Mechanisms</b>	<b>Assumptions and Risks</b>
<p>3.1 Train the staff of eight RSO county offices in Chuxiong Prefecture on poverty monitoring system and data collection, compilation, processing and presentation</p> <p>4.1 Take a maximum of four RSO staff members to a study visit to neighboring countries to learn about local-level poverty monitoring system</p>	<p>QI 2006 QI 2007 Improved statistical capacity of about 50 persons from the eight RSO county offices</p> <p>QII 2005 Improved understanding by four RSO members of various aspects of local-level poverty monitoring system</p>	<p>Training reports Consultants' reports</p> <p>A report of the study visit Assessment during review missions</p>	<p>RSO county office staff may not be willing to learn the new system and data collection procedures.</p> <p>RSO may send the persons not involved in poverty monitoring.</p>
<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <p><b>A. ADB-Financed</b></p> <p>International consultants: 3 person-months</p> <p>Domestic consultant: 10 person-months</p> <p>Computing equipment and appropriate software</p> <p>ADB support and supervision</p> <p><b>B. Government-Financed</b></p> <p>Counterpart staff, office accommodation, and local transport support</p> <p>Government oversight and supervision</p>	<p>\$300,000</p> <p>Q1 2005 (intermittent)</p> <p>Start: QI 2005 (intermittent)</p> <p>QIV 2005</p> <p>QI 2005 to QI 2007</p> <p>QI 2005 to QI 2007</p> <p>QI 2005 to Q1 2007</p>	<p>ADB project records ADB disbursement records</p> <p>ADB project records ADB disbursement records</p> <p>Review missions</p> <p>Review missions</p>	<p><b>Risk</b></p> <p>The engagement of consultants may not be timely.</p> <p>The engagement of consultants may not be timely.</p> <p>Budget for review missions may not be sufficient.</p> <p>Qualified and committed staff may not be available. Government may have lower commitment to allocate resources, especially staff resources.</p> <p>Qualified staff may not be available to supervise.</p>

**COST ESTIMATES AND FINANCING PLAN**  
(\$'000)

Item	Foreign Exchange	Local Currency	Total Cost
<b>A. Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund</b>			
<b>Financing<sup>a</sup></b>			
1. Consultants			
a. Remuneration and Per Diem			
i. International Consultants	50.0	0.0	50.0
ii. Domestic Consultants	0.0	34.0	34.0
b. International and Local Travel	11.0	0.0	11.0
2. Equipment <sup>b</sup>	0.0	18.0	18.0
3. Training, Seminars, and Conferences			
a. Inception Workshop in Beijing	0.0	15.0	15.0
b. Study Visit	14.0	0.0	14.0
c. In-Country Training/Seminars/ Conferences	0.0	10.0	10.0
4. Studies and Surveys	0.0	100.0	100.0
5. Miscellaneous Administration and Support Costs	10.0	8.0	18.0
6. Contingencies	15.0	15.0	30.0
<b>Subtotal (A)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200.0</b>	<b>300.0</b>
<b>B. Government Financing</b>			
1. Counterpart Salaries	0.0	26.0	26.0
2. Office Accommodation	0.0	35.0	35.0
3. Local Transport and Others	0.0	25.0	25.0
4. Miscellaneous Administrative and Support Services Cost	0.0	20.0	20.0
5. Contingencies	0.0	34.0	34.0
<b>Subtotal (B)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>140.0</b>	<b>140.0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>340.0</b>	<b>440.0</b>

<sup>a</sup> Administered by the Asian Development Bank.

<sup>b</sup> Includes, among others, at least eight personal computers.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

## OUTLINE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANTS

1. The technical assistance (TA) will require the services of two consultants – one international and one domestic.
1. **Design of a County Poverty Monitoring System** (international consultant, 3 person-months intermittent)
  2. The consultant should have (i) appropriate qualifications and technical background in designing a local-level poverty monitoring system; (ii) some practical experience in developing local-level poverty monitoring system in developing countries, especially in the Asian and Pacific region; and (iii) experience in working in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and some understanding of the Chinese statistical system. The ability to read Chinese characters will be an advantage. The consultant will work for 3 months in the field/county.
  3. During the first stage (1.5 months), the consultant is expected to carry out activities to determine county poverty-related indicators. The specific activities will include the following:
    - (i) Hold a dialogue with relevant international and domestic agencies, to take stock of what has been or is being done to monitor poverty, especially at the local level.
    - (ii) Design a mechanism/short procedure to identify and select county-specific poverty-related indicators.
    - (iii) With the use of the mechanism/short procedure (ii), identify and select county-specific indicators, using a participatory approach, involving discussions/consultations with various county stakeholders.
    - (iv) Analyze the results and prepare a short report that includes identifying the information required and its use in policy- and decision-making processes.
    - (i) Identify poverty-related indicators using survey data (survey-based poverty correlates) for a number of sectors, using the methodology developed in RETA 6073.<sup>1</sup>
    - (ii) Hold another round of consultations/discussions with county stakeholders in determining county poverty-related indicators.
    - (iii) Prepare a final report on the county poverty-related indicators.
    - (iv) Present the findings in an inception workshop.
  4. During the second stage (0.5 month), the consultant will perform the following tasks:
    - (i) Review the existing data collection mechanisms for both primary and secondary data, including the data generated.

---

<sup>1</sup> RETA 6073: Developing Tools for Assessing the Effectiveness of ADB Operations in Reducing Poverty.

- (ii) Identify the data gaps, both income and nonincome data, between the required county poverty-related indicators and the indicators generated from the existing data collection mechanisms.
- (iii) Propose ways to bridge the data gaps.
- (iv) Review the existing data flow from various data producers (within them and between them) to data users, and suggest improvements.

5. During the third stage (1 month), the consultant is expected to develop and propose a county poverty monitoring system. The detailed activities will include the following:

- (i) Finalize an agreed-upon set of county poverty-related indicators.
- (ii) Determine data collection mechanisms to produce such indicators.
- (iii) Construct a set of data collection instruments to compile primary and secondary data required for deriving such indicators.
- (iv) Determine the appropriate procedure(s) to derive such indicators.
- (v) Determine ways of presenting such indicators.
- (vi) Prepare a complete report on the proposed county poverty monitoring system.
- (vii) Identify human resource requirements to implement the county poverty monitoring system and suggest ways to meet the requirements.
- (viii) Assist the TA project officer in presenting the proposed system to the National Bureau of Statistics and the Rural Survey Organization (RSO).

**2. Administrative Support and Design of a County Poverty Monitoring System**  
(domestic consultant, 10 person-months intermittent)

6. A critical requirement for the consultant is appropriate qualifications and technical background in designing a local-level poverty monitoring system. In addition, the consultant should have some experience in a poverty-related project or activity in the PRC and should be able to communicate well (oral and writing) in English.

7. The consultant will perform the following tasks:

- (i) Act as the main contact person for the project in the PRC.
- (ii) Assist RSO in administering TA implementation.
- (iii) Help the ADB team in mission activities.
- (iv) Facilitate communication between ADB and RSO and other agencies.
- (v) Make sure that the liquidation documents prepared by RSO are in order and sent to ADB on time.

- (vi) Work together with the international consultant in designing a short mechanism/procedure to identify and select poverty-related indicators, including types of information needed and for what purposes, the ideal frequency of information, the forms in which the information is required.
- (vii) Assist the international consultant in identifying and selecting poverty-related indicators, using a participatory approach, and involving various county stakeholders.
- (viii) Assist the international consultant in designing a data review technique for evaluating information availability (income and nonincome data) in terms of data coverage, data quality and data sources.
- (ix) Lead the data review, following the advice of the international consultant.
- (x) Assist the international consultant in preparing a report covering both the county-specific poverty-related indicators and information availability, in particular identifying information gaps and covering the gaps from the ideal requirement (in terms of coverage, content, quality, and frequency).
- (xi) Obtain the data required for constructing survey-based poverty-related indicators.
- (xii) Work together with the international consultant to derive an agreed-upon set of poverty-related indicators.
- (xiii) Work together with the international consultant to carry out (income and nonincome) data collection activities.
- (xiv) Facilitate a number of workshops/seminars/meetings for the TA.
- (xv) Assist the international consultant in developing a county poverty monitoring system.
- (xvi) Assist RSO in identifying human resource gaps in implementing the poverty monitoring system and in proposing ways to bridge the gaps.
- (xvii) Assist RSO in implementing the system in eight counties.
- (xviii) Provide ADB with a monthly update of the progress of the TA activities.
- (xix) Submit a final report to ADB within 2 weeks after the end of the contract period in the format acceptable to ADB.
- (xx) Perform such other tasks as may be required for the success of the TA project.