



# Technical Assistance Report

---

TA Number 6502  
Regional Capacity Development Technical Assistance (R-CDTA)  
November 2008

## Regional Knowledge and Partnership Networks for Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth

(Cofinanced by the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge  
Partnership Fund and the People's Republic of China Regional  
Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund)

Asian Development Bank

## ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
AIM	–	Asian Institute of Management
ASEAN	–	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEAN+3	–	ASEAN, People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea
ICT	–	information and communication technology
IPRCC	–	International Poverty Reduction Center in China
KDI	–	Korea Development Institute
MDG	–	Millennium Development Goal
NCAER	–	National Council of Applied Economic Research
PADI	–	Poverty Analysis and Development Initiative
PIDS	–	Philippine Institute for Development Studies
PRC	–	People's Republic of China
R-CDTA	–	regional capacity development technical assistance
UNDP	–	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCAP	–	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLASSIFICATION

<b>Type</b>	–	Regional capacity development technical assistance (R-CDTA)
<b>Targeting Classification</b>	–	Targeted intervention—geographical poverty issues
<b>Sector</b>	–	Law, economic management, and public policy
<b>Subsector</b>	–	Economic management
<b>Themes</b>	–	Capacity development, regional cooperation, inclusive social development
<b>Subthemes</b>	–	Institutional development, regional public goods, other vulnerable groups

## NOTE

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

<b>Vice-President</b>	U. Schäfer-Preuss, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development
<b>Director General</b>	X. Yao, Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD)
<b>Head of Unit</b>	S. Chatterjee, Poverty Unit, RSDD
<b>Team leader</b>	A. Bauer, Senior Economist, RSDD
<b>Team member</b>	G. Wan, Senior Poverty Reduction Specialist, RSDD

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The long-term strategic framework 2008–2020 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) (Strategy 2020) highlights the need for ADB to promote partnerships and knowledge solutions as drivers of change for its new development agenda.<sup>1</sup> Strategy 2020 has adopted a vision of Asia and the Pacific free of poverty. This is to be achieved by making growth and social development more inclusive, and through emphasis on environmental sustainability and regional cooperation. It sees ADB as playing a much bigger role in knowledge development, exchanges, and partnerships. The regional capacity development technical assistance (R-CDTA) will facilitate the development and exchange of new knowledge on poverty and inclusive growth between leading knowledge institutions and policy makers in Asia, through capacity-building support and the use of modern communication and technology solutions.<sup>2</sup> It will establish a regional knowledge forum that exchanges knowledge through an Asia-wide poverty and inclusive growth website, and will partner with other international agencies for this purpose.<sup>3</sup>

## II. ISSUES

2. **Remaining and New Challenges in Reducing Poverty.** Asia and the Pacific is known for its success in the last decade in reducing income poverty and enhancing social development. However, new poverty estimates indicate that the incidence and magnitude of poverty is larger than previous estimates, and that poverty reduction may not be as successful as formerly considered.<sup>4</sup> Major challenges remain, therefore, and new ones are arising particularly with regard to (i) non-income dimensions of poverty and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); (ii) aggravation of poverty caused by environmental factors and climate change; (iii) challenges in providing effective social protection, including issues related to demographic change, aging, and migration; and (iv) recent reversals of poverty reduction caused by food price increases.

---

<sup>1</sup> ADB. 2008. *Strategy 2020: The Long-Term Strategic Framework of the Asian Development Bank 2008–2020*. Manila.

<sup>2</sup> The R-CDTA concept was approved by the Vice-President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development on 6 March 2007. Funding from the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund was endorsed on 4 October 2007. Additional funding from the People's Republic of China (PRC) Regional Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund was approved on 24 June 2008. The R-CDTA was first listed in the business opportunities section of the ADB website on 10 July 2008.

<sup>3</sup> The R-CDTA will support, among others, the work of the ADB–United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)–United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partnership to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); and regional discussion on poverty and inclusive growth in the context of ASEAN+3. It will also link with the Global Development Network and other internet-based and electronic knowledge-sharing institutions and tools. The approach taken in this R-CDTA differs from such networks by focusing on poverty (not broader development) issues in Asia only; and by institutionalizing knowledge exchanges between leading regional and national knowledge centers on poverty reduction (these centers will be close to the government, rather than being individual researchers).

<sup>4</sup> See various ADB work on inclusive growth and on inequality, such as: Walton, Michael. 2007. *Poverty Reduction in the New Asia and Pacific: Key Challenges of Inclusive Growth for the Asian Development Bank*. Manila: ADB; Ali, Ifzal and Zhuang, Juzhong. 2007. *Inclusive Growth toward a Prosperous Asia: Policy Implications*. Manila: ADB; Ifzal Ali. 2007. *Pro-Poor to Inclusive Growth: Asian Prescriptions*. Manila: ADB; Hasan, Rana. 2007. *Inequality in Asia. Key Indicators Special Chapter*. Manila: ADB; see work of UNESCAP, and UNDP on the MDGs, such as: UNESCAP / ADB / UNDP. 2008. *A Future within Reach. Regional Partnership for the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific*. New York: UN; see new poverty estimates of the World Bank, showing that the world (and Asia)—outside of PRC—is not on track to meeting the MDG 1 goals: Chen, Shaohua and Ravallion. 2008. *The Developing World is Poorer than we Thought but no Less Successful*. Washington, DC: World Bank (Policy Research Paper).

3. **Weaknesses in Knowledge Sharing.** Asian experiences in poverty reduction are diverse, and countries are increasingly interested in learning from each other and sharing their experiences. However, a number of factors are hampering efficient exchange of knowledge. First, there are insufficient knowledge products in an appropriate form for facilitating knowledge exchanges. While much data and research on successful experiences and good practices exist, including from ADB's own operational experience, they are not available in an easily shareable form (i.e., synthesized, succinct, and high-quality form; and in common [English] language) for usage beyond academic circles and across borders. As a result, such knowledge is often not sufficiently replicated (with suitable local adaptations), or upgraded. Secondly, while many countries have leading knowledge and policy research institutions, their research is often disseminated in a limited manner with insufficient influence in international policy discussions. Encouraging them to develop appropriate shareable knowledge products and bringing them together in knowledge exchange networks will boost knowledge sharing in the region. Finally, knowledge exchange modalities (especially across borders) are weak and sporadic, and are not being conducted systematically. ADB is in a unique position, with membership embracing all these countries, to facilitate such exchanges. Regional groupings, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, can also play an important role in sharing information for policy implementation.

4. **Inadequate Use of Information and Communication Technology within Knowledge Networks.** To share both regional and local knowledge widely, quickly, efficiently, and inexpensively, the R-CDTA will promote the use of modern electronic networks and information and communication technology (ICT) such as websites, e-newsletters, teleconferencing, and videoconferencing. This will address some lessons from past ADB support to knowledge networks, which was less sustainable beyond the financing of studies and conferences. Maximizing use of ICT for networking purposes is also environment-friendly as it will reduce conferences and air travel to the minimum.

### III. THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

#### A. Impact and Outcome

5. The Project is expected to improve—through knowledge sharing—strategic thinking on poverty reduction and inclusive growth. It will generate and share—in a regional context—knowledge products in these areas. Through its regional website, it will institutionalize a regional knowledge network on poverty reduction for Asia and the Pacific.

#### B. Methodology and Key Activities

##### 1. Components

##### a. Developing Knowledge Products

6. Support will be provided to (i) help national think tank institutions in the region develop knowledge products related to poverty and inclusive growth, and synthesize such products for sharing; and (ii) develop and share knowledge products from ADB's own experience.

7. **Knowledge Products of Regional Knowledge Institutions.** The R-CDTA will help synthesize knowledge on new poverty reduction and inclusive growth issues in Asia and the Pacific, and make such knowledge more easily accessible to domestic and regional experts and policy makers. To this end, it will finance—through the selected regional knowledge institutions—about 34 policy briefs and working papers and a number of studies on issues of regional interest. In addition, it is expected that the participating research institutions will share about 70 knowledge papers from their own work, and place them on their websites within the R-

CDTA implementation period. The R-CDTA will not finance new original research;<sup>5</sup> rather, it will summarize and share—through a regional website—existing national knowledge. A tentative list of topics that have been initially considered is in Appendix 3. The topics of working papers and policy briefs, and the contribution of individual countries, will be mutually agreed upon at the beginning of R-CDTA implementation by the four participating subregional network partners and ADB staff.

8. **Knowledge Products of ADB.** The R-CDTA will also support the preparation of knowledge products based on ADB's experience to enable it to share its own operational experiences on poverty and inclusive growth more effectively. This will be achieved by supporting preparation of eight policy briefs and seven working papers, and publishing them through an e-newsletter on poverty and inclusive growth.<sup>6</sup>

#### **b. Facilitating Knowledge Networks**

9. The R-CDTA will build capacities in the selected knowledge institutions to improve and maintain their own websites better as an effective means to share relevant knowledge on poverty reduction and inclusive growth. These websites will then be linked to the relevant websites of participating national think tank institutions by establishing similar content structures. In addition, the national websites will be linked to each other, thereby establishing a regional website on poverty reduction and inclusive growth in Asia and the Pacific. The International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC)<sup>7</sup> will serve as a hub for poverty networks in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and coordinate subregional activities with poverty networks in Central Asia. The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) will serve as a hub for the poverty networks in India, and coordinate subregional activities with poverty networks in South Asia. The Korean Development Institute (KDI) will coordinate work in the Republic of Korea, and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) will coordinate subregional activities with poverty networks in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. The regional network will also be linked to the poverty and MDG websites of international institutions such as ADB, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) already established under the regional partnership on MDGs;<sup>8</sup> and to other relevant sections of international websites and electronic newsletters as needed.<sup>9</sup> Overall, the R-CDTA will partner

---

<sup>5</sup> For example, ADB finances studies under the regional technical assistance for "Supporting Strategic Knowledge Products and Research Networking" for PRC and Mongolia and "Promoting and Sustaining Inclusive Economic Growth in India and PRC".

<sup>6</sup> The e-newsletter will broaden work initiated under the *Poverty Matters* newsletter financed jointly by the National Poverty Reduction Strategies fund (supported by the Government of the Netherlands) and the Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund (financed by the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom). *Poverty Matters* shared experiences from projects financed under the Dutch and UK poverty trust funds with ADB with a wide audience. The trust funds have been closed and the newsletter stopped. The proposed R-CDTA will help continue the dissemination of poverty and inclusive growth knowledge for all ADB operations through the newsletter.

<sup>7</sup> IPRCC was established by the Government of the PRC in 2004 as an Asian platform for exchange of regional knowledge on poverty reduction, and to promote learning from the PRC's poverty reduction successes. It has conducted a series of international training courses and high-level conferences, including cooperating with ADB under the Second ASEAN+3 Poverty Reduction Seminar in September 2006. IPRCC is also the secretariat of the PADI initiative. IPRCC has requested ADB support to strengthen its interaction with other poverty research institutions in the region. The R-CDTA will build capacities in IPRCC for strengthening its role as an Asia-wide international institution and as secretariat for PADI.

<sup>8</sup> Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific. <http://www.mdgasiapacific.org/>.

<sup>9</sup> Including ADB, World Bank, UNESCAP and UNDP poverty websites, Global Development Network, Development Gateway, id21News, Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Network on Poverty Reduction (POVNET),

finally with about 50 national and regional knowledge institutions, government agencies, regional associations, and development institutions. The regional website network will thus be a unique knowledge database on all poverty reduction strategic approaches, sector and thematic thinking, country programs and experiences, analytical tools, and knowledge exchange in Asia and the Pacific.

10. Furthermore, the R-CDTA will facilitate regional exchanges through two regional conferences (both supported under this R-CDTA) and three policy seminars; it intends to conduct much of such exchanges through videoconferencing, for which some limited support will be provided to the institutions. Such regional exchanges will include the participation of regional groupings such as ASEAN;<sup>10</sup> and linkages with the new Poverty Analysis and Development Initiative (PADI),<sup>11</sup> and the MDG partnership of ADB with UNESCAP and UNDP.<sup>12</sup>

11. With parallel financing from the ASEAN Foundation, through the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), the R-CDTA will also facilitate specific capacity building for governments on the opportunities of closer private sector involvement in poverty reduction.

## 2. Sustainability

12. Regional knowledge exchange requires up-front development of capacities, e.g., in establishing shared information through websites and e-newsletters and in building up networks. The R-CDTA will provide initial support for development of knowledge products and for networking. Once such networks are established, such built-up capacity will be maintained by the participating institutions over time, with a much smaller role (such as supporting workshops and help populating the regional website) correspondingly for ADB. The R-CDTA will be implemented in two phases. Initially, it will support knowledge institutions in PRC, India, and the Republic of Korea to develop knowledge products; and strengthen their capacities to undertake knowledge exchanges facilitated by the use of ICT and improved websites. In the second phase, it will bring in other subregional knowledge institutions in Asia and the Pacific within the knowledge network.

## C. Cost and Financing

13. The R-CDTA, estimated to cost \$1,000,000, will be jointly financed on a grant basis by the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund and the People's Republic of China Regional Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund, both administered by ADB.<sup>13</sup> In

---

Poverty and Economic Policy Research Network, and selected other poverty centers outside Asia and the Pacific, especially in Africa and Latin America.

<sup>10</sup> One policy seminar, cosponsored by the ASEAN Foundation, will specifically focus on the role of regional institutions for poverty reduction in Southeast Asia.

<sup>11</sup> PADI is a regional forum established by the World Bank Institute in 2001 for sharing poverty data, poverty research, and poverty policy in East Asia. IPRCC is currently the secretariat of the PADI knowledge network. The institution is currently being reformed to serve as a regional network on poverty analysis, policy influencing, knowledge sharing and data and indicators exchange. PADI is currently being transformed from a Poverty and Data Initiative to a Poverty Analysis and Development Initiative, with stronger country ownership and focus on capacity building for three pillars, i.e. poverty data and indicators; policy influencing; and poverty research.

<sup>12</sup> ADB. ADB's Partnership with UNESCAP and UNDP on Regional MDG Project.  
<http://www.adb.org/Poverty/mdgs/adb-escap-undp-partnership.asp>

<sup>13</sup> Funding of \$500,000 was approved by the Government of the Republic of Korea on 4 October 2007. An additional \$500,000 was approved by the Government of the PRC on 24 June 2008. Both governments confirmed jointly financing the technical assistance through one project.

addition, the ASEAN Foundation will provide parallel cofinancing for capacity building and policy recommendation for Southeast Asia. The cost estimates and financing plan are in Appendix 2.<sup>14</sup>

#### D. Implementation Arrangements

14. **Executing and Implementing Agencies.** ADB, through the Poverty Unit in the Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) will be the Executing Agency; and will be responsible for overall management and coordination, including monitoring the agreements with the participating institutions and timely completion of outputs and activities. IPRCC, NCAER, KDI, and PIDS will be the coordinating implementing agencies. They will work with other leading national think tank and government institutions as well as subregional bodies and organizations.<sup>15</sup> ADB will set up an internal peer review group and involve its poverty network to advise on the R-CDTA from the perspectives of regional and other knowledge departments.

15. **Expanding Networking through Phased Approach.** The R-CDTA will adopt a phased approach to expanding the network. In the first year, it will work—through IPRCC, KDI and NCAER—with national research institutions in PRC, India, and the Republic of Korea. In the second and third years, the coverage of the network will gradually be increased after lessons from the first phase are internalized. In the second phase, it is envisaged that (i) IPRCC will also cover knowledge networks in Central Asia; (ii) NCAER will cover poverty knowledge networks in South Asia; and (iii) PIDS, to be included in the second phase, will coordinate knowledge exchange in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. The ASEAN Foundation has also provided parallel financing to this R-CDTA to support PIDS and AIM in activities for Southeast Asia. AIM and PIDS will facilitate capacity building for senior government officials involved in poverty reduction, on private sector and civil society involvement in poverty reduction; and prepare specific recommendations for ASEAN's role in regional poverty reduction. Appendix 3 gives an overview of likely participating agencies.

16. **Consultants and Other Input Requirements.** The R-CDTA will require an estimated 53 person-months of international and 146 person-months of national consulting services to help develop capacity in the knowledge institutions. All consultants will be engaged on an individual basis and not through a firm. The national and international consultants financed by ADB under this R-CDTA will be recruited in accordance with ADB's *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants* (2007, as amended from time to time). The research networks (IPRCC, KDI, NCAER, and PIDS) will engage national consultants from different countries under their own institutional arrangements in accordance with the above-mentioned ADB guidelines. The consultants supporting development of knowledge products will be economists with specialization in development economics who have worked in areas of poverty reduction and inclusive growth and sustainable development. Consultants needed for website development and management will have expertise in knowledge management, website coordination and management, web writing, and summarizing strategic policy briefs in poverty reduction. The outline terms of reference of the consultants and participating institutions are in Appendix 4.<sup>16</sup>

17. **Time Frame.** The R-CDTA will be implemented over 3 years (November 2008–December 2011). Cooperation on subregional knowledge hubs for Central Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia will commence after 15 months of R-CDTA implementation. The international poverty and inclusive growth website is expected to be online by May 2009 and updated on a monthly basis. The electronic newsletters (including that focusing on ADB work) will appear bimonthly starting in the first quarter of 2009. Series of research report summaries

<sup>14</sup> Detailed cost estimates by participating institution and by outputs are in Supplementary Appendix A.

<sup>15</sup> A tentative list of participating organizations is in a Supplementary Appendix B.

<sup>16</sup> Detailed terms of reference for contracting the partner institutions are in Supplementary Appendix C.

on selected topics will be shared in two conferences. In addition, the R-CDTA will facilitate participation in selected regional seminars and virtual exchange through video conferences.

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

18. The President, acting under the authority delegated by the Board, has approved (i) ADB administering technical assistance not exceeding the equivalent of \$500,000 to be financed on a grant basis by the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund; and (ii) ADB administering technical assistance not exceeding the equivalent of \$500,000 to be financed on a grant basis by the People's Republic of China Regional Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund for Regional Knowledge and Partnership Networks for Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth, and hereby reports this action to the Board.

## DESIGN AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Design Summary	Performance Targets and/or Indicators	Data Sources and/or Reporting Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
<p><b>Impact</b> Improve strategic thinking on the new poverty reduction and inclusive growth agenda in an increasingly regionalizing and global Asia</p>	<p>Countries in the region adopt from other countries learning experiences and programs on poverty reduction and inclusive growth</p>	<p>Feedback obtained from partner institutions and regional departments in ADB after completion of first and second phases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assumption: Openness and commitment to regional learning and knowledge exchanges</li> <li>- Risk: Poverty reduction agenda is not hijacked by other development priorities such as climate change</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outcomes</b> Improved national capabilities to generate and share—in a regional context—knowledge products on poverty reduction and inclusive growth.</p> <p>In addition, through its regional website, a regional knowledge network on poverty reduction and inclusive growth will be institutionalized</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Subject knowledge products brought to the attention of policy makers</li> <li>- National think tank networks share joint strategic knowledge products with their respective governments</li> <li>- ADB's poverty and inclusive growth work is discussed and used more widely in Asia.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feedback obtained from partner institutions and the ADB internal peer review group after completion of first and second phases</li> </ul>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participating institutions maintain commitment to support process</li> <li>- ASEAN and other relevant regional institutions are open to discuss poverty reduction and inclusive growth at their meetings (or side events)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <p>1. Developing knowledge products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Synthesize knowledge on poverty reduction and inclusive growth</li> <li>- Policy recommendations for ASEAN on poverty reduction</li> </ul> <p>2. Sharing of knowledge products through regional networks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity building of national and regional institutions to share knowledge on poverty and inclusive growth</li> <li>- Linking national institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- About 35 policy briefs, working papers, and opinion pieces financed directly under the R-CDTA</li> <li>- About 70 additional policy briefs and working papers from participating institutions shared through the website</li> <li>- About 15 policy briefs, working papers, and opinion pieces prepared by ADB</li> <li>- Additional summaries on poverty and issues relevant to inclusive growth prepared by ADB and shared through regional website</li> <li>- 2 conferences and 3 seminar discussions</li> <li>- Regional website (by early 2009) and e-newsletter (8 issues)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- timely completion of all outputs and activities</li> <li>- annual reports from the network hubs</li> <li>- summaries of the regular coordination group meetings</li> <li>- annual monitoring by the RSDD Poverty Unit</li> </ul>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National knowledge centers produce additional papers</li> <li>- National knowledge centers are willing to share their research and make studies available in formats applicable for international standard web publication</li> </ul> <p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ASEAN and other policy forums are open to discussions on poverty reduction and inclusive growth</li> </ul>

<b>Design Summary</b>	<b>Performance Targets and/or Indicators</b>	<b>Data Sources and/or Reporting Mechanisms</b>	<b>Assumptions and Risks</b>
<p>through a regional (shared) website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Facilitating of regional exchange through conferences, seminars, and virtual meeting</li> <li>- Knowledge sharing at high-level regional meetings such as ASEAN+3 promoted, and in the context of PADI</li> <li>- Regional poverty and inclusive growth website and newsletter</li> <li>- Capacity building for policy makers in ASEAN countries on the role of the private sector in poverty reduction (through AIM)</li> <li>- <i>Poverty Matters</i> newsletter of ADB products shared</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Database on poverty specialists in the region built and maintained</li> <li>- ADB <i>Poverty Matters</i> newsletter (12 issues)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Detailed monitoring of letters of agreement with participating institutions on their outputs;</li> <li>- Number of hits on the regional poverty website will provide an index of usefulness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participating institutions continue developing knowledge products on their own after initial ADB support ends.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activities with Milestones (ADB financing only)</b></p> <p><b>1. Developing knowledge products</b></p> <p>1.1 About 35 policy briefs and working papers on specific topics, summary notes on strategies for inclusive growth in emerging middle-income countries,<sup>a</sup> demand analysis on learning from PRC poverty reduction experiences (various country studies and regional summary), summary notes on poverty orientation of emerging middle-income countries' Overseas Development Assistance opinion piece on poverty orientation of regional institutions (including ASEAN)</p> <p>1.2 Cooperation with national institutions in the Asia and Pacific region and sharing of additional knowledge papers financed by them</p> <p>1.3 About 18 policy briefs and working papers by ADB</p> <p>1.4 Quality control through regional knowledge manager and national and subregional centers</p> <p><b>2. Sharing knowledge</b></p> <p>2.1 Conferences, seminars, and virtual meetings</p> <p>2.2. 12 issues of regional and ADB poverty and inclusive growth e-newsletter</p> <p>2.2 Regional poverty and inclusive growth website</p>		<p><b>Inputs</b></p> <p><b>Component 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy briefs, working papers, opinion pieces: \$278,000</li> <li>- ADB poverty briefs and working papers: \$99,000</li> <li>- Knowledge manager (economist) and knowledge coordination in the subregional networks: \$184,000</li> </ul> <p><b>Component 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conferences, virtual meetings, publication support: \$267,00</li> <li>- e-newsletter (regional and ADB) and regional poverty and inclusive growth website: \$86,000</li> </ul> <p><b>Contingencies:</b> \$86,000</p> <p><b>Total ADB finance:</b> <b>\$1,000,000</b></p>	

ADB = Asian Development Bank, AIM = Asian Institute of Management, ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN+3 = ASEAN, People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea, PADI Poverty Analysis and Development Initiative, PRC = People's Republic of China, R-CDTA = regional capacity development technical assistance, RSDD = Regional and Sustainable Development Department.

<sup>a</sup> Comprising PRC, India, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand in the context of this R-CDTA.

Note: A more detailed design and monitoring framework is in Supplementary Appendix D.

Shiladitya Chatterjee,  
Practice Leader (Poverty Reduction)

Xianbin Yao,  
Director General, RSDD

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

Item	Total Cost
<b>A. Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund, and People's Republic of China Regional Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund <sup>a</sup></b>	
1. Consultants <sup>b</sup>	
a. Remuneration	
i. International Consultants	275.0
ii. National Consultants	13.5
b. International and Local Travel	18.0
2. Seminars and Conferences <sup>c</sup>	248.3
3. Surveys and studies <sup>d</sup>	335.5
4. Miscellaneous Administration and Support Costs <sup>e</sup>	21.5
5. Contingencies	88.3
<b>Subtotal (A)</b>	<b>1,000.0</b>
<b>B. Other Financing</b>	
1. Capacity Building and Policy Recommendation on Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth in ASEAN <sup>f</sup>	
a. Capacity Building for Private Sector Involvement in Poverty Reduction (through AIM)	150.0
b. Conference and Policy Recommendation for Poverty Reduction in Regional Institutions such as ASEAN (through AIM and PIDS)	50.0
2. Counterpart Contributions (Network Institutions) <sup>g</sup>	
a. Knowledge Products	75.0
b. Coordination, Communication, Participants	80.0
<b>Subtotal (A)</b>	<b>355.0</b>
<b>C. TOTAL <sup>h</sup></b>	<b>1,355.0</b>

<sup>a</sup> Administered by ADB.

<sup>b</sup> Covers only consultants directly hired by ADB for preparing policy briefs, working papers, and for e-newsletter and network support. In addition, ADB will hire—on behalf of IPRCC—the knowledge management coordinator for the regional website.

<sup>c</sup> Financial arrangements with the four regional knowledge hubs cover provision for regional conferences and seminars as well as video and audio meetings.

<sup>d</sup> Financial arrangements with the four regional knowledge hubs cover provision for local consultants to prepare policy briefs and working papers, for hub-web writers, and for aligning national websites

<sup>e</sup> Including support—through ADB—for publications and editors, and for renting the regional website room

<sup>f</sup> Parallel financed by ASEAN Foundation through the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) and the Philippine Institute of Development Studies (PIDS)

<sup>g</sup> In-kind contribution by the participating subregional and national institutions through sharing of papers for the website and e-newsletter, cooperation and coordination with the regional poverty and inclusive growth network, and by financing conference participants.

<sup>h</sup> ADB will not implement any activity in the coordinating countries (People's Republic of China, India, Republic of Korea, Philippines), unless having received no-objection certificates from the respective governments.

Source: ADB estimates.

## KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

1. Initially, the regional capacity development technical assistance (R-CDTA) will work with three knowledge networks in the People's Republic of China (PRC), India, and the Republic of Korea. In the second phase (years 2–3), these knowledge networks will also work with other knowledge centers in Central Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.

- (i) The International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC) in Beijing will coordinate activities with other research networks and government agencies in the PRC and Central Asia.
- (ii) The National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in New Delhi will be a hub for knowledge exchange on poverty reduction and inclusive growth in India, and coordinate knowledge exchange with South Asia.
- (iii) The Korean Development Institute (KDI) will coordinate knowledge exchange on poverty reduction and inclusive growth in the Republic of Korea.
- (iv) The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) will coordinate knowledge exchange on poverty reduction and inclusive growth with the research network in East and Southeast Asia (excluding PRC, the Republic of Korea, and Mongolia), and the Pacific.

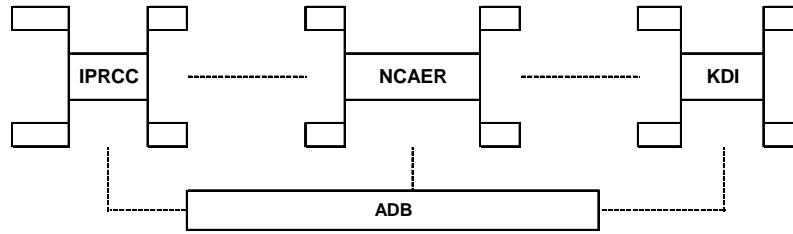
2. In total, the R-CDTA will partner with about 50 national and regional knowledge institutions (including government agencies, regional associations, research organizations, and development institutions). The institutional setup of the R-CDTA is shown in Figure A3.

3. The participating institutions will produce various knowledge products, especially summary papers and policy briefs. The list of topics to be taken up in each round, leading to discussion during the conferences and seminars, will be decided by a small independent group in consultation with the four main knowledge coordinating institutions and a peer review group within the Asian Development Bank. A tentative list of areas for developing knowledge products includes

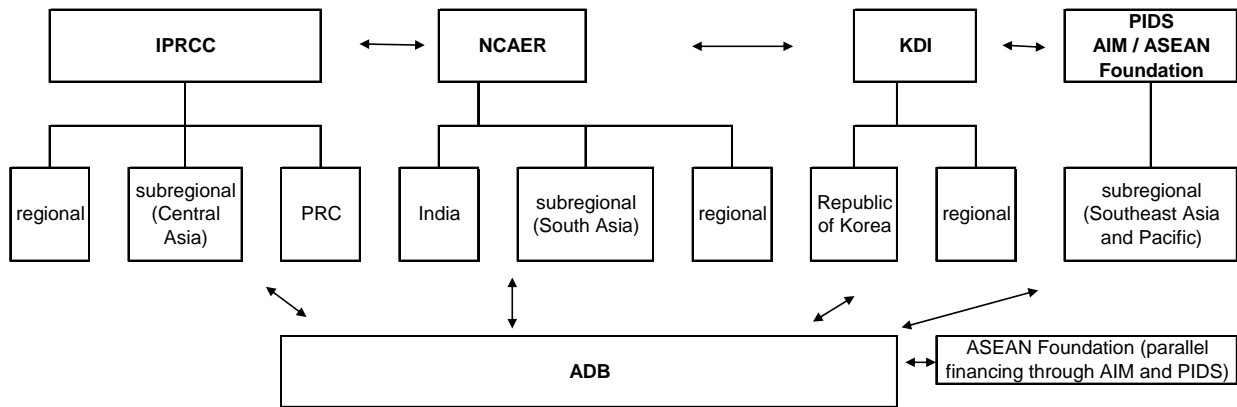
- (i) inclusiveness of growth, including income and spatial inequalities;
- (ii) implications of climate change on the poor, and the environments of poverty;
- (iii) social protection and inclusion;
- (iv) tracking food and fuel price increases and hunger;
- (v) innovation in social protection for the poor and for aging societies;
- (vi) approaches and challenges to meeting the MDGs in Asia;
- (vii) the poverty reduction agenda for emerging middle income countries in Asia;
- (viii) demand analysis in selected countries in the region on what they want to learn from poverty reduction in the PRC (country studies plus summary paper); and
- (ix) policy recommendation on the role of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other regional institutions for poverty reduction in the region.

**Figure A3: Knowledge Networks**

Phase 1: Linking up national institutions in PRC, India and the Republic of Korea and exchanging knowledge between them and ADB



Phase 2: Full regional knowledge exchange on poverty reduction and inclusive growth in Asia and Pacific



ADB = Asian Development Bank, AIM = Asian Institute of Management, IPRCC = International Poverty Reduction Center in China, KDI = Korean Development Institute, NCAER = National Council for Applied Economic Research, PIDS = Philippine Institute for Development Studies

Source: ADB.

## OUTLINE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANTS

### A. Summary

1. A total of 53 person-months of international and 146 person-months of national consulting services will be provided under the technical assistance. Of this, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will directly contract the international consultants and 13 person-months of national consultants. In addition, ADB will engage into an output-based contract arrangement with the International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC), National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Korean Development Institute (KDI), and Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), which will then engage national consultants from various countries to prepare policy briefs and working papers.

2. In total, the regional capacity development technical assistance (R-CDTA) will produce about 139 knowledge contributions for the poverty website. These contributions will be directly financed through the R-CDTA; the remainder will be financed through sharing from the participating knowledge centers. The R-CDTA will facilitate two conferences and four seminars, establish a regional website on poverty reduction, and promote the sharing of information through a series of 10 electronic newsletters and 12 issues of ADB's *Poverty Matters* newsletter. A detailed list of outputs and respective cost estimates for the various participating institutions is in Supplementary Appendix E.

3. The national consultants will (i) assist the knowledge hubs in preparing policy briefs and working papers and in making those relevant for website and e-newsletter publication, (ii) help ADB in designing an e-newsletter, and (iii) assist the regional knowledge hub design its website and e-newsletter. The international consultants will (i) help the regional network setting up, populating, and maintaining a website and a newsletter that are content-based and shared nationally and internationally; and (ii) assist ADB in preparing policy briefs and working papers, and editing conference documents for publication. The consultants will be recruited individually by ADB according to its *Guidelines on the Use of Consultants* (2007, as amended from time to time). ADB will approve the terms of reference and the ranked short list of candidates hired by the national knowledge hubs.

### B. Terms of Reference

#### 1. Consultants Hired by ADB

4. **Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth Economist and Knowledge Manager** (international, 16 person-months). The poverty reduction and inclusive growth economist and knowledge manager will be hired for 16 person-months over 36 months. He or she will work intermittently for about 8 months in the first year, 5 months in the second year, and 3 months in the third year of cooperation. The expert will work from their home office. Up to seven regional trips will be required for closer coordination with ADB, IPRCC, and NCAER, as well as possible participation in the regional conferences. The consultant will be an economist with specific international knowledge in poverty reduction and inclusive growth, as well as good experience in website and e-newsletter writing. He or she needs to have good communication and negotiation skills and shall be internationally well known to research networks in Asia working on poverty reduction. Under the supervision of ADB and in close cooperation with IPRCC, the consultant will do the following.

- (i) Serve as overall coordinator and knowledge manager for the R-CDTA.
- (ii) Build up capacities in IPRCC to serve as the regional knowledge center on poverty and inclusive growth in Asia; establish contact and working relations with Asian regional associations; and facilitate, through IPRCC as the secretariat for the new Poverty Analysis

and Development Initiative (PADI), cooperation with PADI as the regional knowledge forum on poverty.

- (iii) Establish linkages to relevant poverty websites in Asia, and connect them to the Asia Poverty and Inclusive growth website established under this R-CDTA, provide content for designing and managing the regional website and the *Poverty Matters* newsletter, and coordinate the final design with ADB, the web designer, and the participating regional network institutions (i.e., IPRCC, KDI, NCAER, and PIDS); advise regional and national centers on linking their poverty website and contents to the regional website.
- (iv) Assist the regional knowledge hubs in preparing policy briefs and working papers and in making those relevant for website and e-newsletter publication; edit policy briefs and working papers and make them ready for website and e-newsletter publishing; write, on a selective basis, own policy briefs and working papers; serve as economics editor and adviser to the contents of participating institutions' websites.

5. **Designer for electronic media** (national, 4 person-months). The designer for the regional *Poverty and Inclusive Growth website* and the *Poverty Matters e-newsletter* designer will be a national consultant (or firm) hired by ADB in the Philippines or other developing member country. The consultant shall have expertise in website design for international development institutions and poverty websites. Experience with ADB in this matter is an advantage. The work will be done from head office but teleconferencing and videoconferencing with ADB and IPRCC are envisaged. Under the supervision of ADB, the consultant will

- (i) develop the regional poverty and inclusive growth website in close cooperation with ADB, IPRCC, and the poverty reduction knowledge manager; assist ADB and IPRCC in other technical website and newsletter-related issues during the first 3 months of actual rollout; and provide backup support;
- (ii) identify the most efficient and effective international room space and arrange for technical solutions to place the website in such web-room;<sup>17</sup>
- (iii) develop the e-newsletter based on the design and conceptual inputs from the poverty reduction knowledge manager, ADB, and IPRCC; and
- (iv) establish technical connectivity to other poverty websites in the region and between the participating regional knowledge hubs.

6. **Development Economics Editor** (international, 12 person-months). An economics editor (poverty reduction economist) will work with the knowledge manager, ADB, and IPRCC intermittently over 3 years from his or her home office on the regional poverty and inclusive growth e-newsletter. Under the supervision of ADB, the consultant will

- (i) check the regular updates of the ADB poverty websites and propose to ADB interesting features for the *Poverty Matters* newsletter;
- (ii) write overview and reference articles for the *Poverty Matters* newsletter;

---

<sup>17</sup> The website has to be physically placed on a server equipped for sharing information internationally. The space for the website needs to be leased from that server. The designer will assist ADB in selecting the proper roomspace and discussing the terms and conditions.

- (iii) write summaries for the e-newsletter in cooperation with the knowledge manager and ADB; and
- (iv) edit news and articles provided by the knowledge manager and ADB and make them “web ready.”

7. **Poverty and Inclusive Growth Specialists** (international, 26 person-months). Various specialists will be hired by ADB to prepare at least 10 policy briefs and 8 working papers on poverty and inclusive growth topics, based on ADB examples. The contents will be determined by ADB and separate terms of reference will be provided for each paper.

8. **Copy Editor for Conference Proceedings** (international, 5 person-months). A copy editor will be engaged to make the proceedings of two conferences ready for final publication. The copy editor shall work closely with the conference organizers (IPRCC, NCAER, and KDI); the knowledge manager; and ADB.

## 2. Knowledge Cooperation with the Network Hubs

9. ADB will engage in output-based contractual arrangements with KDI, NCAER, IPRCC, and PIDS to cover the cooperation expenditures of those institutions related to this R-CDTA. Among others, the four knowledge networks will

- (i) engage, in close cooperation with national poverty knowledge institutions, national consultants and supervise their work on preparing policy briefs and working papers as well as opinion pieces;
- (ii) stimulate, in cooperation with national and subregional poverty institutions, the writing of at least 30 additional working papers and additional policy briefs for the poverty website through national knowledge institutions, to be shared on the regional poverty website;
- (iii) coordinate linking the websites of participating national institutions with the regional website to be developed under this R-CDTA;
- (iv) coordinate, as subregional knowledge coordinator, with institutions in the respective subregions and help them in aligning their poverty websites; formalize the cooperation with national knowledge institutions through simple contractual arrangements (letters of intent);
- (v) engage regional e-newsletter writers to prepare articles (including translations into English, if necessary) for the national and regional websites;
- (vi) organize international conferences and policy seminar in close cooperation with ADB, PADI, and regional associations; and
- (vii) prepare annual progress reports;

10. In addition, IPRCC will serve as regional anchor for the R-CDTA. In this function, it will prepare progress reports and closely work with the knowledge manager.