



**Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation  
of National Poverty Reduction Strategies (NPRS)**

**FOURTH SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS UPDATE  
( 1 JULY – 31 DECEMBER 2003)**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The Fourth Semi-Annual Progress Update (the Update) reports on the activities under the Cooperation Fund in Support of the Formulation and Implementation of National Poverty Reduction Strategies (NPRS) covering the period from 1 July to 31 December 2003. The Update includes the key progress made and lessons learned during the reporting period. It also includes quarterly financial reports as of 30 November 2003<sup>1</sup>.
2. The next Update (1 January – 30 June 2004) will be submitted in late July 2004.

**II. OVERVIEW OF NPRS OPERATIONS (JULY–DECEMBER 2003)**

**A. Overview of Key Activities**

3. The key activities carried out during the reporting period include the following and are explained in the paragraphs as indicated:
  - (i) Third NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting on 28-30 July 2003 (para 11) during which 8 new NPRS projects were endorsed by the Netherlands (para 7) and a Summary Note of the Third Strategy Meeting on NPRS/PRF (sent to the Netherlands on 16 September 2003) (para 11);
  - (ii) Approval of 6 new technical assistances (TAs) by the ADB management and further processing of 5 additional TAs (para 7);
  - (iii) Preparation and peer review meetings of two new projects for discussion at the Fourth NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting (27-29 January 2004) (para 7);
  - (iv) Technical advice and monitoring implementation of NPRS TAs (para 13);
  - (v) First NPRS Annual Report: 2001-2002 (sent to the Netherlands on 8 October 2003);
  - (vi) Produced two quarterly financial reports (as of 30 September and 30 November 2003);
  - (vii) Draft Issues Paper for the Fourth NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting (sent to the Netherlands on 16 December 2003) (para 12);

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<sup>1</sup> Pending the availability of data as of 31 December 2003, the financial status as of 30 November 2003 is used as a proxy for that as of 31 December 2003, as more time is needed by the Controller's Department to compute the latter.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK  
ADMINISTRATOR FOR  
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FUND  
COOPERATION FUND FOR NATIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES  
(GOVERNMENT OF NETHERLANDS)

STATUS OF GRANT (CONTRIBUTION)  
as of 30 November 2003  
(Amounts in US dollar)

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION COMMITTED (Euro 6,783,221.37)		7,284,598.55
Add: Gain arising from change in value of currency		<u>24,025.20</u>
Amount received	2,320,000.00	
Receivable from Government of Netherlands	<u>4,988,623.75</u> <sup>b/</sup>	7,308,623.75 <sup>a/</sup>
Add: Income from investment	52,303.01	
Interest income	<u>5,102.83</u>	<u>57,405.84</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE		7,366,029.59
Less: Project expenditures	(688,221.47)	
ADB administration cost	(34,411.07)	
Bank charges	<u>(245.00)</u>	<u>(722,877.54)</u>
UNUTILIZED BALANCE		6,643,152.05 <sup>c/</sup>
Less: Outstanding commitments	(1,633,730.73)	
Reserve for ADB administration cost	<u>(81,686.54)</u> <sup>d/</sup>	<u>(1,715,417.27)</u>
UNCOMMITTED BALANCE		<u><u>4,927,734.78</u></u>

<sup>a/</sup> Represents the sum of utilized and unutilized contributions expressed in US\$ equivalents.

<sup>b/</sup> Undrawn contributions in local currency are translated at the applicable exchange rate as of 30 November 2003.

<sup>c/</sup> Represented by:

Cash		283,137.83
Investments		1,302,116.73
Accrued interest		186.28
Undrawn contribution - Receivable from the Government of Netherlands (Contribution of Euro 6,783,221.37 less Euro 2,597,257.20)		4,988,623.75
Advances		74,227.01
Less: Accrued expenses		<u>(5,139.55)</u>

6,643,152.05

<sup>d/</sup> Represents five percent (5%) of outstanding commitments.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK  
Statement of TA Expenditures - Cooperation Fund for the National Poverty Reduction Strategies  
(Government of Netherlands)  
As of 30 November 2003  
(Expressed in US dollars)

TA Title	TA No./Type	Date of Approval	TA Amount <sup>1/</sup>	Amount Received	Project Expenditures <sup>2/</sup>			Outstanding Commitments	Expected TA Completion Date	Completed TAs	
					Cumulative up to 31/12/02	Transactions 01/03-30/11/03	Cumulative up to 30/11/03			Unutilized Commitment (Savings)	Financial Completion Date
			(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E) = (C) + (D)	(F) = (A) - (E)	(G)	(H) = (A) - (E)	(I)
<b>Cambodia</b>											
Dissemination of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy	4037/AO	16Dec02	<u>80,000.00</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>5,272.99</u>	<u>5,272.99</u>	<u>74,727.01</u>	31-Mar-04		
<b>PRC</b>											
Participatory Poverty Reduction Planning for Small Minorities	4158/AO	12Aug03	<u>840,000.00</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>840,000.00</u>	31-Aug-04		
<b>Uzbekistan</b>											
Comprehensive Medterm Strategy for Improving the Living Standard of UZB	3781/AO	28Nov01	<u>570,000.00</u>		<u>4,145.00</u>	<u>394,563.73</u>	<u>398,708.73</u>	<u>171,291.27</u>	31-Dec-03		
<b>Regional</b>											
Regional Conference on National Poverty Reduction Strategies	6006/RG	21Nov01	50,000.00		31,952.20	0.00	31,952.20	-		18,047.80	Jul-02
National Poverty Reduction Strategies in Pacific DMCs	6047/RG	06Sep02	500,000.00		-	252,287.55	252,287.55	247,712.45	31-Jan-04		
Social Protection Index for Committed Poverty Reduction	6120/RG	27Aug03	<u>300,000.00</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,000.00</u>	31-Mar-05		
Total Regional			<u>850,000.00</u>		<u>31,952.20</u>	<u>252,287.55</u>	<u>284,239.75</u>	<u>547,712.45</u>		<u>18,047.80</u>	
<b>Total</b>			<u>2,340,000.00</u>	Euro 2,597,257.20 US\$ <u>2,320,000.00</u> <sup>3/</sup>	<u>36,097.20</u>	<u>652,124.27</u>	<u>688,221.47</u>	<u>1,633,730.73</u>		<u>18,047.80</u>	

<sup>1/</sup> US\$ equivalent of TA Grant at time of TA approval.

<sup>2/</sup> Actual disbursements.

<sup>3/</sup> Represents the actual US\$ equivalent of contributions received.

- (viii) Revamped and updated PRF/NPRS project database (para 14);
- (ix) A new concept paper template (para 15);
- (x) Good practice case studies for the website (para 16);
- (xi) Liaison with PRF and other poverty and thematic trust funds (para 17);
- (xii) Strengthened NPRS management within ADB (para 14).

## **B. Financial Status**

4. **NPRS Grant Utilization.** The total NPRS contribution committed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (the Netherlands) is Euro 6,783,221.37<sup>2</sup> from November 2001 to August 2004. As of 30 November 2003, the value of NPRS Fund including income from investment was at \$7,308,623.75. During the reporting period, no additional funds were sought or received, as the disbursements remained below the cumulative remittance to date (\$2,320,000). The expenditure increased by \$250,828.82, from \$437,392.65 in June 2003 to \$688,221.47 in November 2003. The related administrative costs and bank charges increased from \$21,999.76 to \$34,656.07 for the same period.

5. The disbursement came from 3 out of 5 projects under implementation. The total commitment amount of the 3 projects is \$1,150,000. The disbursement of \$250,828.82 during the reporting period was lower than the estimated \$1.16 million. The financial statement as of 30 November 2003 are in Appendix 1.

6. **Six-monthly Expenditure Projection.** Based on the disbursement estimates provided by the project officers, a six-monthly projection for the next two years has been prepared (Appendix 2). The total project expenditures for the first six months of 2004 (excluding Bank administration cost at 5%) is estimated at about \$800,000. This includes 9 projects that are expected to be under implementation during the period. Given that the disbursement estimate for July-December 2003 turned out optimistic, the estimates this time are based on a modest scenario. For the latter half of 2004, it is estimated that the disbursements will amount to \$2,050,000. As it stands, additional remittance from the Netherlands at about \$0.9 million may be needed in the latter half of the year 2004.

7. **Overall Commitment Level.** During the review period, 8 new projects totaling \$2,260,000 were endorsed for funding at the Third Strategy Meeting in July 2003<sup>3</sup>. This pushed the total overall commitment to \$4,990,000 as of 31 December 2003, or 68.3% of the total NPRS Fund.

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<sup>2</sup> Originally 15 million Dutch Guilders which was later converted to Euro in January 2002.

<sup>3</sup> Including 2 projects (MKRD: Unmasking Cross-border Poverty; and REG: Training and Capacity Building for Poverty Monitoring) which were re-endorsed at the Third Strategy Meeting.

## C. Project Status

8. **Overview.** The reporting period saw a generally accelerated rate of processing and implementation of NPRS-funded projects, with the exception of one ongoing TA<sup>4</sup> (para 9). This is mostly attributable to (i) the introduction of a 9-month cut-off requirement between the donor funding endorsement and ADB approval, which helped to expedite processing, and (ii) a strengthened monitoring of progress of individual projects by the NPRS/PRF Coordinator. Six TAs totaling \$1.64 million were approved by the ADB management in the reporting period, 8 new projects totaling \$2,250,000 that were endorsed by the Netherlands for NPRS funding, 3 were approved by ADB in December 2003 and 5 are under processing during the reporting period. This pushed the portfolio from \$2,740,000<sup>5</sup> in June to \$4,990,000 in December 2003. As of 31 December, there are 15 NPRS projects altogether, with one completed (totaling \$50,000), 9 under implementation (totaling \$2,790,000), and 5 under processing (totaling \$2,150,000). Two new proposals (totaling \$700,000) are in pipeline for discussion at the Fourth NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting on 27-29 January 2004. A summary of the project updates is in Appendix 3.

9. **Portfolio Diversification.** With the endorsement of 8 new projects in July, the range of activities being supported by NPRS has diversified. A general shift has occurred from the primary focus on strategy formulation among the early proposals (e.g. UZB: Medium-Term Strategy; Pacific: NPRS in PDMCs) to strategy dissemination, implementation, monitoring (with the emphasis on methodologies development), and adjustment.

10. **Preliminary Outcomes and Issues.** Two TAs that had been under implementation for some time (UZB: Medium-Term Strategy; Pacific: NPRSs in PDMCs) have shown a major progress in the reporting period with the bulk of activities having been completed despite their slow startup earlier. In these TAs, commitment and ownership of the governments and key stakeholders have significantly increased. One TA (CAM: Dissemination of the NPRS) continued to progress slowly. The main component of the TA is to facilitate public debate on the NPRS, which is encountering some difficulties due to the political sensitivities immediately after the national elections in July 2003. However, public consultations at the commune and other local levels are now approved by the Government and are scheduled to take place in early 2004.

11. The two TAs approved in August 2003 (PRC: Small Minorities and REG: Social Protection Index) are both on schedule for consultant selection and expect the start of the implementation in February 2004. The recent approval of placement of a poverty reduction consultant in three resident missions (CAM, PAK, and VIE), cofinanced by PRF and ADB, is expected to accelerate ADB's support on poverty reduction activities in the respective country as well as provide a significant visibility of ADB.

## D. Other Tasks and Activities

12. **Organization of the Third NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting (28-30 July 2003).** The meeting was attended by the representatives from the Netherlands, Department for International

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<sup>4</sup> CAM: Dissemination of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (\$80,000, approved by ADB on 16 December 2002).

<sup>5</sup> Excluding GMS: Unmasking Cross-border Poverty (originally \$600,000) and REG: Training and Capacity Building for Monitoring Poverty Reduction (\$400,000), which had been on the list before but were re-endorsed with a renewed concept in July 2003. Increased NPRS support from \$600,000 to \$750,000 was approved by the Netherlands on 14 January 2004.

Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom, and ADB. The Netherlands was represented by Mr. Martijn Dadema, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Geert Jan Engelsman from the ED Office. The meeting reviewed and discussed key implementation issues and endorsed new projects. A Summary Note that highlights the key discussions and agreements was produced and shared with the Netherlands on 16 September 2003. The key follow-up actions agreed at the meeting are in Appendix 4.

13. **Preparation of Issues Paper on the NPRS and the PRF.** One of the agreed follow-up actions was to prepare an issues paper for the Fourth Strategy Meeting, addressing the following three topics: (i) procedural alignment with Country Strategy and Programs (CSPs) and their annual updates; (ii) rapid and timely disbursement and the ways to accelerate them; and (iii) mechanisms to systematically monitor aggregate impacts of NPRS/PRF-supported activities in each country and region. A Draft Issues Paper was prepared and circulated on 16 December 2003 to all concerned departments within the ADB and to the donors. It provides a situational analysis and puts forth some options to address these three issues. The Issues Paper will be discussed at the Fourth Strategy Meeting.

14. **Technical Advice and Monitoring.** The assignment of a new NPRS/PRF Coordinator in April 2003 reactivated the operational support of RSDD to the operational and other knowledge departments through the formulation and implementation of NPRS-supported projects. Introduction of a 6-monthly NPRS/PRF Project Status Report to be filled up by all the project officers facilitated a more in-depth progress and impact monitoring than before.

15. **Establishment of NPRS/PRF Team and Database Management.** With the hiring of a temporary analyst and temporary administrative assistant, the management of NPRS and PRF was strengthened during the reporting period. The project's database is being expanded to include substantive information on individual projects. In collaboration with the Office of Information Systems and Technology, the NPRS/PRF Team is looking into the possibility of moving away from the current Excel-based spreadsheet to a new MS Access-based database, while allowing interfaces with the Project Processing Information System, the TA Progress Report System and other ADB-wide databases to avoid overlapping efforts in data collection. Funds administration is expected to improve further once the new database starts.

16. **New Concept Paper Template.** As per the decision of the Third Strategy Meeting, a new template was developed by the NPRS/PRF Coordinator and piloted for the batch of proposals for consideration at the Fourth Meeting. The template comprises (i) ADB's concept note template (for direct use for Vice President concept clearance at a later stage); (ii) a one-pager note to indicate links with NPRS/PRF objectives and eligibility criteria; (iii) project framework; and (iv) cost estimates (see Appendix 5). The new template attempts further streamlining of NPRS/PRF procedures with those of ADB. While the new template avoided the inclusion of lengthy description of the poverty situation of the country in question and was expected to ease the VP concept clearance, it did not reduce preparation time. On the other hand, section (ii) proved effective in strengthening the justification for NPRS/PRF funding by making the proponents go through each eligibility criterion.

17. **Outreach and Communications.** The information and awareness about NPRS together with PRF among ADB staff increased further during the reporting period. However, the revamping of the website during the reporting period is yet to be completed fully. However, much of the case writing work has been completed for uploading to the website in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2004. As the implementation of overall portfolio progresses, a more proactive evaluation of lessons learned and impacts as well as dissemination of the experience and findings will be

carried in 2004. Details will be discussed at the Fourth Strategy Meeting.

18. **Coordination with Other Funds.** Regular information exchange continued with other poverty and thematic trust funds, such as the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, the Poverty and Environment Fund, the Gender and Development Cooperation Fund, the Governance Cooperation Fund (GCF), and the Cooperation Fund for the Water Sector. At the Third NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting, one session was allocated specifically for the exchange of funds management experience with other trust funds coordinators. Further, feedback from the NPRS/PRF's experience was made into the finalization of the GCF Review carried out in mid-late 2003. The NPRS/PRF Issues Paper also reflects on the findings and recommendations of the GCF Review, especially on the topic of the alignment with CSPs.

### **III. WORK PROGRAM FOR THE NEXT PROGRESS UPDATE REPORTING PERIOD (JANUARY-JUNE 2004)**

19. The major tasks for the next 6 months (1 July 2003–31 December 2003) will include:
- (i) Holding the Fourth NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting (27-29 January 2004);
  - (ii) Carrying out follow-up actions agreed at the Fourth Strategy Meeting, including the future of the NPRS;
  - (iii) Improving funds management and strengthening quality in portfolio;
  - (iv) Accelerating ADB approvals of projects endorsed by the Netherlands;
  - (v) Monitoring progress of implementation of ongoing TAs, including the Coordinator's participation in selected supervision missions;
  - (vi) Enhancing outreach and communications on the NPRS, including revamping of the website and updating of good practice case studies; and
  - (vii) Continuing coordination with other funds.

#### **List of Appendixes:**

- Appendix 1: NPRS - Status of Grant (As of 30 November 2003)
- Appendix 2: NPRS Disbursement Estimates (As of 31 December 2003)
- Appendix 3: Status of NPRS Projects Endorsed by the Government of Netherlands (As of 31 December 2003)
- Appendix 4: Action Plan for the Fourth NPRS/PRF Strategy Meeting
- Appendix 5: NPRS/PRF Concept Paper Template



## STATUS OF NPRS PROJECTS ENDORSED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NETHERLANDS (As of 31 December 2003)

Reg	Ctry	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status as of 31 December 2003
<b>A. Projects Completed</b>									
REG	INTER-REG	6006	Regional Conference on National Poverty Reduction Strategies	SPPI	50,000	Nov-01	21-Nov-01	Support to the Regional Conference on Poverty Reduction Strategies Plan (PRSP) formulation and progress review, co-organized by IMF, UNDP, and WB.	Completed (but not financially closed). The high-level conference was held in December 2001 in Hanoi with participants from the Mekong region and others (Indonesia, Timor Leste, PRC, Mongolia).
			<b>Sub total</b>		<b>50,000</b>				
<b>B. Projects Under Implementation</b>									
ECRD	PRC	4158	Participatory Poverty Reduction Planning for Small Minorities	PRCM	840,000	Dec-02	12-Aug-03	Capacity building support to formulate a poverty reduction plan among the 22 small minority groups, applying a multidimensional and participatory planning methodology developed based on the PRC's and international best practices. The key output will be the plan with policy recommendations.	The shortlisted consulting firms submitted their technical and financial proposals on 30 November 2003. The technical proposals are being evaluated. It is expected that the contract negotiations with the winning firm will be done in Jan 2004. International individual consultants recruitment is expected then. The TA implementation is scheduled to commence in Feb 2004.
ECRD	UZB	3781	Comprehensive Medium-Term Strategy for Improving the Living Standards of the People of Uzbekistan	ECAE	570,000	Nov-01	28-Nov-01	Capacity building support to prepare a medium-term poverty reduction strategy with key stakeholder participation. The project will assist statistical data collection on living standards well as provide training to policy makers on pro-poor growth strategies and social policy. The key output will be the medium-term strategy.	There was an initial delay in TA implementation. This was due to administrative issues in the engagement of domestic consultants, reorganization of the implementing agency, change in economic and political environment, and most importantly, the weak technical capacity of the sector working group (SWG members) who are tasked to formulate the Living Standard Strategy.

SPPI Strategic Planning, Policy and Interagency Relations

PRCM PRC Resident Mission

ECAE Agriculture, Environment &amp; Natural Resources Division, ECRD

**STATUS OF NPRS PROJECTS ENDORSED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NETHERLANDS (As of 31 December 2003)**

Reg	Ctry	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status as of 31 December 2003
MKRD	CAM	3955	Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Cambodia (Poverty Expert extension)	CARM	31,500	Jul-03	15-Dec-03	Capacity building support to the country through a Resident Mission poverty consultant. The assistance will cover policy, sector, and project levels as well as policy dialogue with the government, civil society, private sector, and development partners.	Cofinanced by TASF \$18,000; PRF \$63,500. The TA was recently approved on 16 December 2003.
MKRD	CAM	4037	Dissemination of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy	MKOC	80,000	Nov-01	16-Dec-02	Support to widely disseminate NPRS of Cambodia to local level and civil society.	The TA implementation is delayed. The original date of completion was 31 July 2003. Due to the political impasse in forming the new Government following the election in July 2003, the project was extended to 31 March 2004. It will need to be further extended to the end of 2004 to be able to fully achieve the TA objectives. Part of the TA fund was used for additional publication of the Second Socio-economic Development Plan (SEDP II), 2001-2005; and the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS), 2003-2005, for the launching in March 2004 and for nationwide distribution.
MKRD	VIE	4252	Support to Poverty Reduction Activities in Vietnam	VRM	37,000	Aug-03	12-Dec-03	Capacity building support to the country through a RM poverty consultant. The TA will especially focus on monitoring the implementation of the Poverty Partnership Agreement, and accelerate various sector/thematic work to identify future poverty projects, as well as to strengthen coordination and consultation with key stakeholders.	TASF \$15,000; PRF \$73,000; The TA was approved on 12 Decemehr 2003.
PARD	SUB-REG	6047	National Poverty Reduction Strategies in Pacific Developing Member Countries	PAHQ	500,000	Jul-02	6-Sep-02	To carry out participatory poverty assessment in 4 countries (Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Tonga, and Tuvalu) applying the methodologies previously developed under another RETA.	Currently working on last country, FSM, to be completed February 2004. Consultants were recruited in November/December 2002 and fielded in January/February 2003. Participatory poverty assessments and country development strategy reviews and poverty validations have already been concluded in Fiji, Tonga and Tuvalu.

CARM Cambodia Resident Mission

MKOC Operations Coordination Division, MKRD

PAHQ Pacific Operations Divison, PARD

VRM Viet Nam Resident Mission

**STATUS OF NPRS PROJECTS ENDORSED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NETHERLANDS (As of 31 December 2003)**

Reg	Ctry	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status as of 31 December 2003
PARD	SUB-REG	6157	Strengthening Poverty Analysis and Strategies in the Pacific	PAHQ	400,000	Dec-02	18-Dec-03	A range of capacity building initiatives in selected Pacific DMCs, including (a) data collection, analysis, and dissemination (b) participatory policy development, and (c) monitoring of poverty impacts of policies and programs.	Cofinanced by PRF \$400,000. Approved on 18 December 2003. Expected to commence in March 2004. The TA design was preceded by an extensive consultation process involving stakeholders in the Pacific Island countries, development partners and regional institutions. TA preparatory activities were carried out under TA 6061 (financed by PRF), including workshops/meetings in Nadi, Fiji (March 2003), Sydney (July 2003) and Noumea, New Caledonia (September 2003), during which time the agreement was made that original idea of the 'Pacific Fund' would be replaced with a 'Program' under which a series of capacity building initiatives would be supported. Donors such as NZAID, AusAID, and WB requested ADB to take the lead in this initiative.
REG	INTER-REG	6120	Developing a Social Protection Index for Committed Poverty Reduction	SASS	300,000	Dec-02	27-Aug-03	Develop social protection index to enable monitoring of policies and programs implementation related to the sector.	Cofinanced by PRF \$300,000; Consultants were selected. Contract negotiation expected 15 January 04.
SARD	PAK	4277	Support of Poverty Reduction Initiatives in Pakistan	PRM	31,500	Sep-03	18-Dec-03	Capacity building support to the country through a Resident Mission poverty consultant. The TA will especially focus on monitoring the implementation of Poverty Reduction Strategies Plan (PRSP) and provincial-level plans as well as reviewing and helping develop new programs on poverty reduction. This would help Pakistan Resident Mission serve as a knowledge node on poverty in the country.	Cofinanced by Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF) \$39,000; PRF \$63,500. Approved on 18 December 2003.
			<b>Sub total</b>		<b>2,790,000</b>				

SASS Social Sectors Division, SARD  
 PAHQ Pacific Operations Division, PARD  
 PRM Pakistan Resident Mission

**STATUS OF NPRS PROJECTS ENDORSED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NETHERLANDS (As of 31 December 2003)**

Reg	Ctry	TA No.	Name of Project	Division	Amount	Donor Endorsement	ADB Approval	Project Description	Project Status as of 31 December 2003
<b>C. Projects Under Processing</b>									
ECRD	SUB-REG		Gender and Poverty Reduction Strategy in Central Asian Regions (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan)	ECSS	350,000	Jul-03	31-Mar-04	Capacity building assistance to develop or update gender strategies in 4 Central Asian Region countries that would influence or be part of the respective NPRSs and relevant policies/strategies/plans, based on detailed country-level gender and poverty analysis and stakeholder discussions.	Due to the unexpected health conditions of the project officer, the fact-finding was postponed till early February 2004. No objection letter from the Government has been sought to process the TA further. Expected ADB approval by mid April 2004.
MKRD	SUB-REG		Unmasking Cross-border Poverty in the Greater Mekong Subregion	MKAE	750,000	Jul-03	28-Feb-04	Assessments of the nature and extent of 'cross-border' poverty issues including impact of cross-border trade, developed transport and communication network, increased mobility of people, differentiated impacts based on ethnicity, gender, etc. The findings will influence both country-based NPRSs as well as the regional cooperation strategies in relevant sectors.	Fact-finding undertaken to Laos, Thailand, Viet Nam and Cambodia in October-November 2003. ADB approval targeted for early February 2004.
REG	INTER-REG		Training and Capacity Building for Monitoring Poverty Reduction	RSPR	400,000	Jul-03	31-Mar-04	An umbrella fund to support a series of training initiatives on poverty reduction for poverty data collectors, data analysts, and policy makers. Will also develop training modules building upon the existing ones.	TA paper is under preparation for internal circulation in January 2004. Expected ADB Approval is March 2004.
REG	INTER-REG		Building Capacity for Participatory Development Activities to Promote Poverty Reduction	RSPR	300,000	Jul-03	15-Feb-04	Capacity building on participatory pro-poor policy/strategy development and project planning and monitoring and evaluation.. Teams comprising ADB-Consultant-Government-NGOs will be assisted.	Cofinanced by PRF \$300,000; TA paper circulated internally for comments in Dec 03; Preparatory work of introducing potential trainees to ADB successful and completed (Nov-Dec 2003; Expected ADB approval is March 2004
SARD	SRI		Poverty Assessment and Information Management	SLRM/SAOC	350,000	Jul-03	31-Jan-04	Help improve poverty data collection methodologies and analysis to make them consistent across the country.	Processing of the TA is on schedule. Expected ADB approval is January 2004. After approval, the recruitment of the consultants will be initiated. It is expected that implementation will begin by early March 2004. The expected date of completion is February 2007.
			<b>Sub total</b>		<b>2,150,000</b>				
			<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,990,000</b>				

ECSS Social Sectors Division, ECRD

MKAE Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division, MKRD

RSPR Poverty Reduction and Social Development Division

## ACTION PLAN FOR THE FOURTH NPRS/PRF STRATEGY MEETING\*

	Issue	Action	Responsibility	Progress
1	Maintain additionality but consider aligning with CSP/Us.	(i) Prepare an Issues Paper.	NPRS/PRF Coordinator (RSDD)	Done (Draft circulated on 16/12/03)
2	Monitor progress of processing/ implementation.	(i) Enforce 9-month cut-off date for those endorsed this time. (ii) Assess the average processing time for ADB TAs. (iii) Conduct longer-term financial forecasts (rather than 6-monthly) and set disbursement targets.	Coordinator, in collaboration with RDs, OCO and CTL	(i) Done. (ii) Done (Draft circulated on 16/12/03) (iii) Done (Financial Report prepared)
3	Streamline procedures.	(i) Develop and pilot new NPRS/PRF concept paper template.	Coordinator, in consultation with SPD	Done and piloted for the new batch.
4	Next NPRS/PRF programming	(i) Attempt to prepare country-based NPRS/PRF work program on a pilot basis (countries to be decided in collaboration with donors)	Coordinator, in collaboration with country teams and RDs	Consultation done but not sufficient time to initiate.
5	Aim at regional balance in portfolio.	(i) Encourage BRM, PRM, and Headquarters staff working on Bangladesh and Pakistan to submit proposals.	NPRS/PRF Coordinator/RS DD, BRM, PRM, and SARD	Consulted with with BRM and PRM. More regional balance for the new batch.
6	Develop impact monitoring mechanisms.	(i) Continue TA progress report monitoring. (ii) Prepare a brief Issues Paper for discussion at the next meeting.	NPRS/PRF Coordinator/RS DD, DFID and Government of the Netherlands	(i) Direct link with TAPR in progress. (ii) Done (16/12/03)
7	Further NPRS/PRF integration	(i) Discuss more detailed mechanisms.	DFID and Government of the Netherlands	To be discussed at the 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting.
8	Further coordinate NPRS/PRF with other thematic funds.	(i) Continue discussions with other coordinators.	RSDD and OCO	Regular exchange carried out with JFPR, GCF, and other funds.

\*Prepared at the end of the Third Strategy Meeting (28-30 July 2003). 'Progress' section reflects follow-up activities taken during August-December 2003.

# NPRS/PRF Concept Paper Template

{Notes:

1. Please click the **BEGIN** button on the toolbar before starting.
2. To make a new paragraph, press **Enter**, then hold down the **Ctrl** key while pushing the **Tab** key.
3. To mark a checkbox, double-click it, chose **CHECKED** from the **Default Value** box, then click **OK**.
4. Delete the instructions in red type.}

## {Title} Concept Paper

**Date:** {Date}

{To mark a checkbox, **double-click** it, choose **CHECKED** from the **Default Value** box, then click **OK**.}

### 1. Type/modality of assistance (double-click on appropriate box)

- Lending
  - Project loan
  - Program loan
  - Sector loan
  - Sector development program loan
  - Other: {specify, e.g., loan-financed project preparatory, project implementation, or advisory activities}
- Nonlending
  - Project preparatory
  - Other than project preparatory
    - Economic, thematic, and sector work
    - Institutional development
    - Other: {specify}

### 2. Assistance Focus

- a. If assistance focuses on a particular sector or subsector, specify the  
Sector: {insert sector name}  
Subsector: {insert subsector name}
- b. For project preparatory and lending, classification {check one}
  - Core poverty intervention
  - Poverty intervention
- c. Key thematic area(s) {check more than one category, if applicable}
 

<input type="checkbox"/> Economic growth	<input type="checkbox"/> Human development
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender and development	<input type="checkbox"/> Good governance
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental protection	<input type="checkbox"/> Private sector development
<input type="checkbox"/> Regional cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/> Social protection
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: {specify}	

### 3. Coverage {click on appropriate box}

- Country                       Subregional                       Interregional
- Internal policy development

### 4. Responsible division/department: {insert name}

### 5. Responsible ADB officer(s): {insert name if known}

### 6. Description of assistance(s)

- a. Background/linkage to country/regional strategy: {insert text}
- b. Goal and purpose: {insert text}
- c. Components and outputs: {insert text}
- d. Expected results and deliverables: {insert text}

<p>e. <b>Social or environmental issues or concerns:</b> {insert text}</p> <p>f. <b>Plans for disseminating results/deliverables:</b> {insert text}</p>
<p><b>7. Proposed executing/implementing agencies:</b> {insert name(s)}</p>
<p><b>8. Nature/extent of government/beneficiary involvement in identifying or conceptualizing the assistance:</b> {insert text}</p> <p>(Note: Mention the institutions in government and civil society, including nongovernment organizations, that have been consulted about the project, and the nature of the consultations.)</p>
<p><b>9. Timetable for assistance design, processing, and implementation</b></p> <p>a. Year included in CSP, CSP update, SCSP, SCSP update, or interregional work plan: {Year}</p> <p>b. Expected date of submission for approval  Lending: {date}  Nonlending (project preparatory): {date}  Nonlending (other than project preparatory): {date}</p> <p>c. Period and duration of assistance {s}  Lending: {insert period and duration}  Nonlending: {insert period and duration}</p>
<p><b>10. Financing Plan</b> (Indicate possible financing sources and amount of assistance, cost estimates, and financing arrangements)</p> <p>a. For lending</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ordinary capital resources: \${amount}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian Development Fund: \${amount}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: {specify} \${amount}</p> <p>If cofinancing is required indicate sources, and amount sought:  If known, provide cost estimates and financing arrangements. (e.g., total cost, ADB financing, other financing, and government financing):</p> <p>b. For nonlending</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No resources required, other than ADB staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ADB's administrative budget: \${amount}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grant TA funds</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: {specify}</p> <p>If cofinancing is required indicate sources, and amount sought:  If known, provide cost estimates and financing arrangements. (e.g., total cost, ADB financing, other financing, and government financing):</p>

ADB = Asian Development Bank, CSP = country strategy and program, SCSP = subregional cooperation strategy and program, TA = technical assistance.

## Information Specific to NPRS/PRF Application

1. <b>Funding Request:</b> (Amount in \$; NPRS or PRF)				
2. <b>Counterpart Project Name (processing year), if any:</b>				
3. <b>Proposed PRF/NPRS project processing schedule</b> (month / year; fill in below):				
Peer Review Meeting	Donor-ADB Strategy Meeting (for funding endorsement)	TA Fact-Finding	Expected ADB TA Approval	Implementation
				From: Until:
4. <b>Special Features Justified for NPRS/PRF Funding:</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Poverty Focus:</b> {What dimensions of poverty will the project address and in what way? How will the needs of the poor addressed? How will inclusiveness and pro-poor governance be addressed?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Links with Strategic Poverty Reduction Agenda:</b> {How will the project's outputs/outcomes be utilized in support of the strategic poverty agenda of ADB in the country? What are the linkages with CSP and pipelines?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Links with National Poverty Reduction Strategy:</b> {How will the project contribute to the formulation, prioritization, implementation, monitoring and/or reformulation of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy of the country?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Why NPRS/PRF:</b> {Why is the activity not funded under other ADB sources? Why can the project not be included in the counterpart loan component? How is the project different from a normal sector work / capacity building?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Innovativeness:</b> {Why is the project innovative?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Need for Pilot</b> (in the case in which the project involves pilot): {Why is pilot needed? What would the pilot test?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Justification if RETA</b> (in the case of cross-country or cross-regional project):</li> <li>▪ <b>Scaling-up and Systemic Impact:</b> {How will the lessons learned/results of the project translated into the future ADB and DMC strategies/operations? What changes would you expect the project to bring about to the ADB and DMC strategies and projects?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Monitoring Mechanism:</b> {How will the project evaluate its direct and indirect benefits on poverty reduction and/or the poor?}</li> <li>▪ <b>Participation and Ownership:</b> {Will the project directly involve the poor or facilitate the enabling environment for the participation of the poor? Will it involve civil society? Will it involve local expertise? Resident Missions? How will the project forge DMC ownership? Any partnerships with other development partners?}</li> </ul>				
5. <b>Key Assumptions, Risks, Safeguard Issues, and Mitigation Measures</b>				
6. <b>Appendix:</b> Project Framework; Cost Estimates and Financing Plan				

Note: Make sure that the project will meet one or more of the following objectives:

- (i) assist in policy dialogue and strategy formulation on poverty reduction;
- (ii) develop new programs and projects with increased focus on poverty reduction;
- (iii) monitor and assess the poverty reduction impact at the project, meso-and micro levels;
- (iv) launch pilot poverty reduction activities to influence future loan design;
- (v) involve broader stakeholder consultations; and
- (vi) strengthen ADB's role in the region to promote poverty reduction.

**PROJECT FRAMEWORK**

<b>Design Summary</b>	<b>Performance Indicators/Targets</b>	<b>Monitoring Mechanisms</b>	<b>Assumptions and Risks</b>
<b>Goal</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>			
<b>Outputs</b>			
<b>Activities</b>			
<b>Inputs</b>			

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

Item	Foreign Exchange	Local Currency	Total Cost
<b>A. Asian Development Bank Financing<sup>a</sup></b>			
1. Consultants			
a. Remuneration and Per Diem			
i. International Consultants	0.0	0.0	0.0
ii. Domestic Consultants	0.0	0.0	0.0
b. International and Local Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
c. Reports and Communications	0.0	0.0	0.0
2. Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
3. Pilot	0.0	0.0	0.0
4. Training, Seminars, and Conferences			
a. Facilitators	0.0	0.0	0.0
b. Training Program	0.0	0.0	0.0
5. Surveys	0.0	0.0	0.0
6. Miscellaneous Administration and Support Costs	0.0	0.0	0.0
7. Representative for Contract Negotiations	0.0	0.0	0.0
8. Contingencies	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Subtotal (A)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>B. Government Financing</b>			
1. Office Accommodation and Transport	0.0	0.0	0.0
2. Remuneration and Per Diem of Counterpart Staff	0.0	0.0	0.0
3. Others	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Subtotal (B)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

{Define symbols and abbreviations, e.g., — = not available.}

{Notes and footnotes, if any, are next.}

<sup>a</sup>{Financed by the . . . }

Source: {Asian Development Bank estimates.}

**To complete the table**

- (i) Use 0 to indicate magnitude zero.
- (ii) Increase the number of heads (A., B.) if funding will be provided from additional sources.
- (iii) Use superscript a, b, c, etc. rather than numbers for footnotes; the footnote function cannot be used within the table.
- (iv) To insert a **Tab character** in the table, press **Ctrl+Tab**.
- (v) To change the width of any column, hold the **Shift** key, point the mouse cursor on the right border of the column, and drag the mouse to the left or right.
- (vi) To move a number to the next line within a cell, place the cursor before the number then hold the **Shift** key and press **Enter**.
- (vii) To insert a new row, select a row, and click on **Table—Insert Rows** (the new row will be inserted **above** the row selected); or place the cursor at the end of the row (it should appear outside the last column) and then press **Enter** (the new row will be inserted below).
- (viii) To delete a row(s), select the entire row(s), click on the Table menu, and click on Delete Rows.