

# Capacity Building for Environmental Impact Assessment Concept Paper

Date: April 28, 2005

## 1. Type/modality of assistance

- Lending
  - Project loan
  - Program loan
  - Sector loan
  - Sector development program loan
  - ADF grant-financed
  - Other:
- Nonlending
  - Project preparatory
  - Other than project preparatory
    - Economic, thematic, and sector work
    - Institutional development
    - Other:

## 2. Assistance focus

- a. If assistance focuses on a particular sector or subsector, specify the  
Sector(s): Law, Economic Management and Public Policy  
Subsector(s): Subnational government administration
- b. For project preparatory and lending, classification
- Targeted intervention
  - General intervention
- c. Key thematic area(s)
- Themes:
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable economic growth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental sustainability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusive social development           | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional cooperation                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governance                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector development              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender and development                 |  |

Subtheme(s):

## 3. Coverage

- Country
- Subregional
- Interregional
- Internal policy development

## 4. Responsible division/department: ECAE

## 5. Responsible ADB officer(s): Zhang Qingfeng, B. Everitt

## 6. Description of assistance(s)

a. **Background/linkage to country/regional strategy:** In early 2005, an "EIA storm" was unleashed in the PRC, as a result of the State Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) taking firm action with respect to 30 investment projects that had not fully complied with environmental impact assessment (EIA) provisions. The projects targeted were widespread and mostly in the energy sector, including some major water resource and hydroelectricity projects in the massive Three Gorges complex. The provinces/regions affected included Yunnan, Jiangsu, Fujian, Inner Mongolia, Gansu, Xzhejiang, Ningxia, Shandong, Sichuan, and Guizhou. Several transport, flood control, and industry sector projects were also involved. Subsequently, 6 more projects involved in alumina production have been stopped due failure to comply with EIA requirements. The National Development and Reform Commission has directed that strict measures be taken to control projects that have the potential to result in high levels of pollution and /or high energy consumption. In future EIA information will be released to the public.

SEPA has requested ADB assistance to improve the EIA methodology used in the PRC, and is interested in wider

application of ADB's own EIA procedures and methodologies. Preliminary assistance has been provided from PRCM. However, there is a need to provide more significant capacity building to support the implementation of the 11<sup>th</sup> Five year Plan (2006-2010) and this was addressed at the recent Country Programming Mission. SEPA is also making wider reference to the World Bank's EIA practices to ensure full advantage is taken of international best practices.

**b. Goal and purpose:** Promote improved methodologies, processes and increased institutional capacity to undertake rigorous EIA work in the PRC, and improve monitoring and compliance with regulations.

**c. Components and outputs:** (i) Comparative analysis of ADB's EIA procedures and methodologies and those currently used in the PRC, with respect to adopting ADB's practices more widely in the PRC; (ii) Development of training materials and courses based on ADB's methods; (iii) Conducting training and workshops; (iv) Identifying ways of improving compliance with regulations, and monitoring of impacts. Development and publication of EIA guidelines and translated into Chinese language.

**d. Expected results and deliverables:** An applicable methodology and translated documentation for EIA work. Trained staff of SEPA and selected major agencies.

**e. Social or environmental issues or concerns:** Full coverage will be made, as currently outlined in ADB's documentation.

**f. Plans for disseminating results/deliverables:** Workshops and consultation.

**For TA, method(s) of TA output dissemination:**

- A conference/workshop/brown bag
- Publication of article(s) in external journals or books
- External press release to news agencies, including [www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)
- Internal press release in *ADB Today*
- Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Proposed executing/implementing agency or agencies:** State Environmental Protection Agency

**8. Nature/extent of government/beneficiary involvement in identifying or conceptualizing the assistance:**

During the 2005 Country Program Mission the State Environmental Protection Agency requested this project.

**9. Timetable for assistance design, processing, and implementation**

- a. Year included in CSP, CSP Update, RCSP, RCSP Update, or interregional work plan: 2006
- b. Expected date of submission for approval
  - Lending:
  - Nonlending (project preparatory):
  - Nonlending (other than project preparatory): 2006
- c. Period and duration of assistances
  - Lending:
  - Nonlending: 2006-2007

## 10. Financing Plan

a. For lending

- Ordinary capital resources: \$
- Asian Development Fund (loan): \$
- Asian Development Fund (grant): \$
- Other: \$

If cofinancing is required, indicate amount and sources sought: \$\_\_\_\_, from \_\_\_\_\_.

b. For nonlending

- No resources required, other than ADB staff
- ADB's administrative budget:
- Grant TA funds \$250,000
- Other:

If cofinancing is required, indicate amount and sources sought: \$\_\_\_\_, from \_\_\_\_\_.

Source	Amount (\$)
ADB Financing	250,000
Government Financing	100,000
Other Financing	
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>350,000</b>

Source:

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