



## Project Data Sheet

Project 49068-001

Project Name	The Future of Regional Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific	
Project Number	49068-001	
Country / Economy	Regional	
Project Status	Closed	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	<b>TA 9032-REG: The Future of Regional Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific</b>	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 850,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	<b>Multisector</b> / ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development	
Gender	Some gender elements	
Description	<p>This corporate TA will support the implementation of the ADB Strategy 2020 midterm review recommendations under a proposed RCI Operational Plan by producing operationally-relevant knowledge work to guide ADB's future operations in RCI.</p> <p>More specifically, this TA is envisioned to produce knowledge products consisting of (i) one background paper on regionalism in Asia and the Pacific: emerging trends, opportunities, and challenges; (ii) a thematic paper on economic clusters and economic corridor development; (iii) a research report that consolidates the key findings and recommendations of the two knowledge products; and (iii) a synthesis paper summarizing the implications for ADB's operations in RCI.</p>	

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>Regionalism in Asia and the Pacific is often described as unique: market-driven, dynamic, open, multitrack, and multispeed, owing to different development patterns, economic circumstances, and geopolitical realities across the region. This model has served the region well, with RCI playing an increasingly important role in the region's economic development.</p> <p>ADB has sought to take this process forward through a bottom-up approach built on support to subregional cooperation efforts, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), ASEAN+3 (ASEAN plus the People's Republic of China, Japan, and Republic of Korea); the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC); the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS); and the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC), with focus on cross border infrastructure and related software, trade and investment, monetary and financial cooperation, and regional public goods. These subregional cooperation efforts have progressed at different speeds and served as building blocks for an eventual broader and more unified regional architecture.</p>
Impact	RCI initiatives that address the emerging challenges faced by ADB's DMCs are implemented (ADB Strategy 2020)

## Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	New and/or enhanced RCI initiatives are identified
Progress Toward Outcome	A volume on "An Evolving ASEAN: Vision and Reality", completed under TA 8664, is being published. The volume traces the evolution of ASEAN cooperation over the past five decades and examines how ASEAN should position itself to face the challenges of the next half century and beyond. The volume is expected to contribute to the expected outcome of this TA by providing guidance for future RCI operations of ADB and regional initiatives.

## Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Knowledge products on RCI produced</li> <li>2. Research results disseminated</li> <li>3. Synthesis paper on programmatic and operational implications produced</li> </ol>
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	One background paper and two country case studies (Thailand and Malaysia) were completed. Research findings were presented at the Final Workshop in May 2017 and Roundtable Conference on RCI during RCI Week in November 2017. Operational implications of research findings will appear in the 2017 RCI Roundtable Conference proceedings (for publication).
Geographical Location	Regional

## Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects
Involuntary Resettlement
Indigenous Peoples

## Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design	Consultations with ADB's regional departments, through the RCI Thematic Group, were done to improve the design of the TA paper.
During Project Implementation	The TA is being implemented in collaboration with relevant ADB regional departments. ADB also worked with global and regional institutions to produce knowledge work and conduct other activities under this TA.

## Business Opportunities

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Consulting Services	<p>The TA will require approximately 29 person-months of international consulting services, 30 person-months of national consulting services, and 4.1 person-months of resource persons. All consultants will be selected and engaged individually by ADB in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). For this TA, hiring a team of individual consultants will provide more benefits for ADB than engaging a firm because of the following reasons: (i) faster mobilization of consultants, (ii) greater control by ADB staff in selecting and managing individual consultants; and (iii) greater flexibility in engaging experts specializing in a broad spectrum of RCI-related topics. Eleven international consultants will be engaged to prepare the background, thematic, and synthesis papers. An economics editor will also be engaged to help review and edit the knowledge products that will be produced under this TA. Six resource persons will be invited either to present or write background papers for regional workshops, or to serve as peer reviewers for the knowledge products that will be produced under this TA.</p> <p>The TA will require five national consultants: one to assist in supervising and coordinating the TA activities and outputs, and four to provide research support. A typesetter will be sourced from ADB's Department of External Relations list of accredited service providers who will be responsible for graphics and design, typesetting, and page layout. Appendix 3 of the TA report provides the outline terms of reference for consultants.</p>
Procurement	<p>Purchases of equipment (computer hardware and software) and statistical databases will be undertaken in accordance with ADB's Procurement Guidelines (2013, as amended from time to time), in coordination with ADB's Office of Information Systems and Technology and Office of Administrative Services where applicable. After the TA is completed, any procured equipment will be disposed in compliance with ADB guidelines on administering grant-financed TA projects. Disbursements under this TA will be made in accordance with ADB's Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2010, as amended from time to time). The project officer and other ADB experts will serve as contributors to the research and development of the knowledge products or as resource persons during the workshops to be conducted under this TA.</p>

Responsible ADB Officer	Goswami, Arjun
Responsible ADB Department	Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department
Responsible ADB Division	SDTC-RCI
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank</i> <i>Jayant Menon</i> <i>jmenon@adb.org</i> <i>6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>

## Timetable

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Concept Clearance	11 May 2015
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Fact Finding	19 Mar 2015 to 23 Mar 2015
MRM	-
Approval	10 Dec 2015
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	28 Mar 2019

## TA 9032-REG

### Milestones

Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
10 Dec 2015	-	10 Dec 2015	31 Dec 2016	31 Dec 2019	30 Jun 2020

Financing Plan/TA Utilization								Cumulative Disbursements	
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart		Project Sponsor	Others	Total	Date	Amount	
		Gov	Beneficiaries						
850,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	850,000.00	17 Jun 2022	758,981.25	

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