Regional: Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration Knowledge Partnerships and Research Network in Asia and the Pacific

Project Name: Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration Knowledge Partnerships and Research Network in Asia and the Pacific

Project Number: SI291-001

Country/Economy: Regional

Project Status: Active

Project Type/Modality of Assistance: Technical Assistance

Source of Funding/Amount:
- TA 9537-REG: Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration Knowledge Partnerships and Research Network in Asia and the Pacific
  - Technical Assistance Special Fund
  - US$ 500,000.00
- TA 9537-REG: Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration Knowledge Partnerships and Research Network in Asia and the Pacific
  - Technical Assistance Special Fund
  - US$ 75,000.00

Operational Priorities:
- OP1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities
- OP3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability
- OP6: Strengthening governance and institutional capacity

Sector/Subsector:
- Finance/Infrastructure finance and investment funds
- Public sector management/Social protection initiatives

Gender: No gender elements

Description:
The proposed knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will strengthen knowledge partnerships on themes relevant to regional cooperation and integration (RCI) by facilitating and forging research collaboration among policy research institutions in the Asia and Pacific region and organizing technical workshops and high-level policy dialogues to produce policy papers and a book volume for the use of policy makers in the region.

The TA will be included in the management-approved annual work program for the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD), as a policy research capacity building activity for relevant institutions in DMCs.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:
Regional integration has played a pivotal role in driving Asia’s economic and social development by expanding market and boosting productivity through the exchange of new ideas and production technologies across the region. A deeply interconnected region such as the European Union has gained considerable efficiency by sharing natural and human resources.

To continue taking advantage of the benefit of regional cooperation and integration (RCI), policy makers in the region must closely cooperate on economic and the related development agenda of mutual interest to the region. Knowledge management plays a role of assisting policy makers respond to challenges and opportunities by generating and disseminating targeted research. Active knowledge management is particularly important for RCI agenda because individual country effort is often insufficient in addressing region-wide concern or proposing regional solutions. Research collaboration also generates synergies of making research outcome relevant, actionable, and effective across the region.

However, research that identifies good practices and innovative regional solution to on RCI themes in the region tend to be carried out in stand-alone or fragmented form of efforts. Where collaboration exists, it tends to focus on sharing country-specific analysis of a common topic, but fall short of jointly conducting research on regional agenda with an aim to provide regional solution and recommendation. The situation necessitates proactive promotion of research partnerships across the region on RCI themes, initiatives to promote research on regional agenda through forging partnership and collaboration among research institutions remain limited, but with few exceptions and they can be strengthened.

Impact:
Knowledge, policy dialogue, and regional cooperation on the RCI agenda are improved.

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome: Knowledge partnership on selected RCI themes among policy research institutions in ADB’s member countries are strengthened.

Progress Toward Outcome

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs:
1. Collaborative RCI research conducted
2. DMC researchers actively participate and deepen knowledge on the research topics
3. Policy papers and book volume printed and disseminated

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)

Geographical Location: Regional

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects
Involuntary Resettlement
Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation
During Project Design
During Project Implementation

Responsible ADB Officer
Das, Sanchita Basu

Responsible ADB Department
Economic Research and Development Impact Department

Responsible ADB Division
Regional Cooperation and Integration Division (ERCI)

Executing Agencies
Asian Development Bank

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<td>Concept Clearance</td>
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TA 9537-REG

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Project Page
https://www.adb.org//projects/51291-001/main

Request for Information
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