



Regional: Strengthening the Implementation of Regional Cooperation and Integration Initiatives of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

Project Name	Strengthening the Implementation of Regional Cooperation and Integration Initiatives of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation						
Project Number	53409-001						
Country / Economy	Regional Afghanistan Bangladesh Bhutan India Maldives Nepal Pakistan Sri Lanka						
Project Status	Active						
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance						
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"><tr><td colspan="2">TA 6528-REG: Strengthening the Implementation of Regional Cooperation and Integration Initiatives of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation</td></tr><tr><td>Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund</td><td>US\$ 500,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td><td>US\$ 300,000.00</td></tr></table>	TA 6528-REG: Strengthening the Implementation of Regional Cooperation and Integration Initiatives of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation		Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund	US\$ 500,000.00	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 300,000.00
TA 6528-REG: Strengthening the Implementation of Regional Cooperation and Integration Initiatives of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation							
Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund	US\$ 500,000.00						
Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 300,000.00						
Operational Priorities	OP1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities OP2: Accelerating progress in gender equality OP6: Strengthening governance and institutional capacity OP7: Fostering regional cooperation and integration						
Sector / Subsector	Industry and trade / Industry and trade sector development - Trade and services Public sector management / Public administration Transport / Transport policies and institutional development						
Gender	Some gender elements						
Description	The TA aims to support the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and its eight member states in catalyzing and implementing policies and measures directed at increasing integration levels in and reinforcing the growth momentum of the region.						
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	While SAARC has scored some successes on regional cooperation and integration, there are still notable challenges that impede the achievement of the full potential of RCI in the region.						
Impact	Regional cooperation and integration among member states of SAARC increased						
Project Outcome							
Description of Outcome	Implementation of RCI initiatives in SAARC enhanced						
Progress Toward Outcome	Analytical studies on trade and transport have commenced.						
Implementation Progress							
Description of Project Outputs	Analytical studies on priority regional development issues produced Capacity building, knowledge sharing, and policy dialogues organized						
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	-Under Output 1, consultants for the studies on trade and transport have been engaged. The study on trade will focus on harmonization of 8-digit HS tariff lines and harmonization of customs tariff of those 8-digit HS tariff lines in SAARC Countries. The study on transport will focus on updating the SAARC Regional Multimodal Transport Study (SRMTS). -The third study is relating to climate change on reviewing the implementation status of the Thimphu Statement on Climate Change (TSCC). ADB is in the process of appointing a consultant for this study. -The fourth study is on contextualization of Sustainable Development Goals in SAARC and to revisit the SAARC Plan of Action on Poverty Alleviation. ADB is finalizing the terms of reference of this study in consultation with the SAARC Secretariat. -Under Output 2, there will be review of status of implementation of the prioritized recommendations of the Study on Regional Economic Integration (Phase-II), organization of the Informal Meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers on the sidelines of the Annual Meeting of ADB, and other policy dialogues, knowledge sharing and capacity building activities.						
Geographical Location	Afghanistan - Nation-wide; Bangladesh - Nation-wide; Bhutan - Nation-wide; India - Nation-wide; Maldives - Nation-wide; Nepal - Nation-wide; Pakistan - Nation-wide; Sri Lanka - Nation-wide						
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects							
Environmental Aspects							
Involuntary Resettlement							
Indigenous Peoples							
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation							
During Project Design							

During Project Implementation

Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	ADB will engage a number of individual consultants for the implementation of TA activities. ADB will engage consultants following the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and its associated project administration instructions and/or staff instructions
Procurement	The TA will use request for quotations to procure computers, software, and small office equipment.

Responsible ADB Officer	Li, Dongxiang
Responsible ADB Department	South Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Regional Cooperation and Integration Unit, SARD (SARC)
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	13 Feb 2020
Fact Finding	22 May 2020 to 22 May 2020
MRM	-
Approval	29 Jun 2020
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	06 Sep 2022

TA 6528-REG

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
29 Jun 2020	-	29 Jun 2020	31 May 2022	31 May 2024	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
800,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800,000.00	31 Aug 2023	382,687.61

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/53409-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=53409-001
Date Generated	24 September 2023

ADB provides the information contained in this project data sheet (PDS) solely as a resource for its users without any form of assurance. Whilst ADB tries to provide high quality content, the information are provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including without limitation warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, and non-infringement. ADB specifically does not make any warranties or representations as to the accuracy or completeness of any such information.