



# Regional: South Caucasus Gateways

Project Name	South Caucasus Gateways
Project Number	55118-001
Country / Economy	Regional Armenia Azerbaijan Georgia
Project Status	Active
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount	<b>TA 6800-REG: South Caucasus Gateway</b> Technical Assistance Special Fund <span style="float: right;">US\$ 750,000.00</span>
Operational Priorities	OP2: Accelerating progress in gender equality OP5: Promoting rural development and food security OP6: Strengthening governance and institutional capacity OP7: Fostering regional cooperation and integration
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development / Agro-industry, marketing, and trade Industry and trade / Industry and trade sector development - Trade and services Transport / Multimodal logistics - Transport policies and institutional development
Gender	Some gender elements
Description	The proposed regional knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will facilitate the development of a regional cooperation approach to unleash the economic potential of the South Caucasus region comprising of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia in the new realm of reopening gateways agreed in the 2020 Armenia-Azerbaijan Ceasefire Agreement. The South Caucasus Regional Cooperation Approach (SCRCA) will assess the benefits of economic cooperation within and beyond the region, amidst political uncertainties. The approach will provide options to identify and optimize international and domestic gateways and provide a roadmap for the region to regain its historical significance for trade and transit especially with Central West Asia and as a bridge to Europe. Blocked historical transport routes because of divided land and closed border crossing points result in high costs for trade, reducing the competitiveness of the region's exports. New gateways can yield considerable economic benefits for the region and hence support the political peacebuilding process.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Each country of the South Caucasus region claims its role as a transport hub between Asia and Europe. To realize this potential, however, the countries' cooperation among each other is a precondition. South Caucasus gateways are competing with other transport routes and only the fastest and least expensive routes will attract significant transport flows. All three countries have made significant efforts to improve soft and hard trade infrastructure including investments to reduce travel time and facilitate trade and align with international integration initiatives. The region would benefit from improved connections. The SCRCA will aim to leverage the region's investments, trade facilitation efforts, and significance in interregional transport gateways to provide transport and trade options that benefit Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The approach will be sensitive to political realities, consider the status of existing transport infrastructure, help maximize benefits from trade agreements, support the diversification of exports through lower transport costs, and enhance value added in the region. The approach will also assess new tourism opportunities through re-opened gateways within the region and with neighboring countries.
Impact	Understanding and commitment of Caucasus countries with a shared vision for the South Caucasus Gateway improved
<b>Project Outcome</b>	
Description of Outcome	Trade among Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and their neighbors increased
Progress Toward Outcome	
<b>Implementation Progress</b>	
Description of Project Outputs	Potential for trade, transit, regional value chains and free trade agreements within political economy considerations assessed South Caucasus Regional Cooperation Approach developed
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	
Geographical Location	Armenia - Nation-wide; Azerbaijan - Nation-wide; Georgia - Nation-wide
<b>Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects</b>	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
<b>Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation</b>	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	
<b>Business Opportunities</b>	
Consulting Services	A total of 25 person-months of individual consulting services (up to 8 international consultants for 15 person-months and up to 9 national consultants for 10 person-months) will be provided using mostly lumpsum/output-based contracts.
Responsible ADB Officer	Rosbach, Kristian

Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Regional Cooperation and Integration Unit, CWRD (CWRC)
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	18 Jun 2021
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	11 Oct 2021
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	11 Oct 2021

## TA 6800-REG

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
11 Oct 2021	-	11 Oct 2021	31 Dec 2023	-	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
750,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750,000.00	30 Jun 2023	480,021.71

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/55118-001/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/55118-001/main</a>
Request for Information	<a href="http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=55118-001">http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=55118-001</a>
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