Regional: Strengthening Gender-Based Violence Response Mechanisms in Post-COVID Central and West Asian Countries

Project Name: Strengthening Gender-Based Violence Response Mechanisms in Post-COVID Central and West Asian Countries

Project Number: 55326-001

Country / Economy:
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Georgia
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Pakistan
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan

Project Status: Proposed

Project Type / Modality of Assistance: Technical Assistance

Source of Funding / Amount:
- TA: Strengthening Gender-Based Violence Response Mechanisms in Post-COVID Central and West Asian Countries
- Japan Special Fund
- US$ 2.00 million

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:
- Public sector management
- Social protection initiatives
- Gender equity theme

Description:
The TA will contribute to improving gender-based violence (GBV) response systems and mechanisms, increasing GBV survivors' access to quality support services, and broadening economic options of GBV survivors. The TA will be implemented in ADB's developing member countries (DMCs) in Central and West Asia. The TA will assess the current GBV situation in the region and conduct stocktaking of current policies, programs, and services. It will strengthen the capacities of service providers and develop national and regional benchmarks and protocols, anchored on survivor-centered approach. It will also promote welfare and economic empowerment for GBV survivors through skills development and expansion of linkages to economic opportunities.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:
Central and West Asian (CWA) countries have various laws on the elimination of GBV, yet GBV remains prevalent and has, in fact, intensified during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Economic and social stresses, movement restrictions, and inaccessibility of protection services during the pandemic have had significant negative impacts on women and girls in the region. The ability of GBV survivors to work and pursue economic and livelihood activities are curtailed by the lack of physical, medical, psychosocial, legal, and economic services. At the other end of the equation lie the perpetrators, who, if not properly rehabilitated, can repeat the offense, undermining the progress of the survivors or prey on new victims.

The TA is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1 (end poverty in all its forms everywhere), SDG 5 (achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), and SDG 16 (promote just, peaceful, and inclusive societies). It is also aligned with ADB's Strategy 2030 operational priority (OP) 1 (addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequality), OP2 (accelerating progress in gender equality), OP6 (strengthening governance and institutional capacity), and OP7 (fostering regional cooperation and integration). ADB's country partnership strategies in the CWA DMCs also articulate addressing gender inequalities as ADB's strategic objective in the region. The TA activities complement with the objectives of the Japan Special Fund (JSF): (i) support research and development on a gender theme, (ii) support institutional strengthening and capacity development, (iii) support knowledge management, and (iv) support regional activities. It also supports a key JSF priority area on human resource development.

Impact:
gender equality in human development enhanced

Outcome:
survivors of gender-based violence empowered

Outputs:
GBV situation and response capacity of governments and service providers assessed implementation of GBV response policies, programs, and services enhanced access of GBV survivors to employment, and other economic opportunities broadened

Geographical Location:
- Armenia - Nation-wide
- Azerbaijan - Nation-wide
- Georgia - Nation-wide
- Kazakhstan - Nation-wide
- Kyrgyz Republic - Nation-wide
- Pakistan - Nation-wide
- Tajikistan - Nation-wide
- Turkmenistan - Nation-wide
- Uzbekistan - 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

Responsible ADB Officer: Rosero, Mary Alice
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timetable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concept Clearance</td>
<td>19 Oct 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fact Finding</td>
<td>15 Nov 2022 to 09 Dec 2022</td>
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Project Page  
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