# Regional: Strengthening Knowledge-Driven Development in South Asia

**Project Name**: Strengthening Knowledge-Driven Development in South Asia  
**Project Number**: 45282-001  
**Country**: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka  
**Project Status**: Active  
**Project Type / Modality of Assistance**: Technical Assistance  

**Source of Funding / Amount**

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<td>TA 7997-REG: Strengthening Knowledge-Driven Development in South Asia</td>
<td>US$ 1.50 million</td>
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<td>US$ 100,000.00</td>
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**Strategic Agendas**

- Environmentally sustainable growth  
- Inclusive economic growth  
- Regional integration

**Drivers of Change**

- Governance and capacity development  
- Knowledge solutions

**Sector / Subsector**

- Agriculture, natural resources and rural development - Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development  
- Education - Education sector development  
- Energy - Energy sector development and institutional reform  
- Finance - Finance sector development  
- Public sector management - Economic affairs management  
- Transport - Transport policies and institutional development  
- Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development

**Gender Equity and Mainstreaming**

- Some gender elements

**Description**

Knowledge creation and management are important to SARD operations in the region. In line with ADB's Strategy 2020, SARD will effectively generate/collate and then employ knowledge solutions to better address the development problems of its DMCs. The TA also relies on the Knowledge Management Results Framework that has been developed by ADB to guide its work in SARD DMCs. For regional cooperation and integration, knowledge sharing and capacity development have been endorsed by several ministerial conferences, and supported by many sector projects, as indicated in the forthcoming South Asia Regional Cooperation Strategy (RCS), 2011-2015.

**Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy**

**Impact**

- More relevant and sustainable development efforts in SARD DMCs

**Project Outcome**

**Description of Outcome**

Better informed development policies and strategies in SARD programs and projects

**Progress Toward Outcome**

Progress on TA outcomes will be measured further along the implementation of the TA. While it is too early to measure project outcome, work from this TA has contributed to program and project design within SARD.

**Implementation Progress**

**Description of Project Outputs**

- Knowledge products providing in-depth, relevant, and timely assessments, policy proposals, and recommendations  
- Knowledge events within SARD and in DMCs help with knowledge sharing and application  
- Active regional knowledge partnerships and networks generating and disseminating knowledge to DMCs  
- Project implementation on time and within budget
1. Work on the RETA centered on supporting knowledge events and knowledge products as well as funding of subprojects and KM activities.
2. Subprojects approved to the Project Steering Committee and funded by the RETA.

**NRM:** Approved KM subproject and activities as follows:

- **27 February 2016 PSC Meeting:**
  - Work on this RETA centered on supporting knowledge events and knowledge products as well as funding of subprojects and KM activities.
  - Subprojects approved to the Project Steering Committee and funded by the RETA.
  - **NRM:** Approved KM subproject and activities as follows:

**SAFC:**
- **Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, NRM. Preliminary work and consultation on Nepal Think Tank was completed. Subproject is financially closed.**
- **SATC:** KM Work on the Transport Sector; requested additional RCIF requested and approved to the current consultant to work on the Dhaka NorthWest Corridor Road project. Consultancy work has been completed.
- **SARC:** The BHU: Visit of Prime Minister was held in 2014. This KM activity is financially closed.
- **SARC:** Under the Development Matters platform, the SASEC Vision subproject has been completed and the document has been iteratively reviewed in various meetings. A final SASEC Vision document SASEC: building on Performance Management System for BHU staff of Royal Civil Service Commission was funded in 2015. Both subprojects’ activities are financially closed.
- **SARC:** The capacity building on Results Based Management and Project Management for BHU staff of Gross National Happiness Commission was funded in 2013 and held in Thailand. An in-country capacity and Improving Energy Efficiency in South Asia (SAWP 47) have been completed. Two other working papers are under preparation and will be charged to the working paper miscellaneous and administration category.

**FOR FINANCIAL CLOSURE:**

- **SLRM:** Under the Eminent Speaker Series at Academy of Financial Studies, eight sessions were completed. Subproject is financially closed.
- **SLRM:** The book on Good Practices in Involuntary Resettlement: Approaches and Experiences of the Southern Transport Development Project in Sri Lanka has been completed, reviewed by internal and external reviewers, and disseminated in the last quarter of 2015. Subproject is financially closed.
- **NRM:** NTNC - International Conference on Invasive Alien Species Management was held on March 25 - 27, 2014 at the National Trust for Nature Conservation, Biodiversity Conservation Centre in Sauraha, Nepal. A final report has been printed in 2019. For financial closure.
- **SARC:** Preparatory Work for the Preparation of Conceptual Development Plan for Phase 3 of 3 East Coast Corridor. Consultants are onboard and initiated work on the Plan. Additional RCIF funding was requested and approved to the work of the current consultant on SIC.
- **NRM:** Project Completion Report on Chiang the Financing Gap in Asian Infrastructure. The working paper and its translation have been completed. Request for financial close sent to CTL.

**CANCELLED:**

- **NRM:** The Nepal Country Environment Note was published in December 2014 and the electronic copy is available in the ADB website. Subproject is financially closed.
- **SAOD-PR:** Publication of Lose to Gain: Is Involuntary Resettlement a Development Opportunity? was completed and launched in April 2014. Subproject is financially closed.
- **BRM:** Report on Impact of Trade and FDI Policies on Industrial Development in South Asia has been completed. Subproject is financially closed.
- **SAHS:** South Asia Regional Workshop on TVET Assessment
closed.
- **SAHS:** A publication on Financing Low Carbon Urban Development in South Asia: A Post 2012 Context (formerly Accessing Carbon Finance for Solid Waste Projects in Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal Post-2012: Lessons from Kyoto Protocol Projects in India and China) was completed in October 2013. Subproject is financially closed.
- **SAUW:** A publication on SASEC Vision (2016-2019) has been completed, reviewed by internal and external peer reviewers. At the request of SIC, the name of the book was changed to: Challenges in Implementing Best Practices in Involuntary Resettlement—A Case Study in Sri Lanka. The book was completed and launched in December 2016. Subproject is financially closed.
- **SBAC:** The 11th Annual Conference of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Group was held in Delhi in October 2014. The conference held a panel discussion on the role of students in the policy discourse, with a particular focus on the Asia-Pacific region. The conference asked the question: ‘Can students contribute to the public policy discourse on Asia-Pacific?’ the theme of the conference was ‘Negotiating Asia-Pacific’. The conference was attended by a number of international scholars, policy makers, and leaders in the Asia-Pacific region.

**ONGOING:**

- **SAIC:** A report on the status of implementation progress (Outputs, NRM. Preliminary work and consultation on Nepal Think Tank was completed. Subproject is financially closed.**
- **SAIC:** The report an Impact of Trade and FDI Policies on Industrial Development in South Asia was published in December 2015. Subproject is financially closed.
- **SARC:** A film on Gender and Urban Poverty in South Asia was completed in 2014. Subproject is financially closed.
- **BRM:** An inter-agency group for the development of a joint policy framework for the analysis of international and internal peer reviewers. At the request of SIC, the name of the book was changed to: Challenges in Implementing Best Practices in Involuntary Resettlement—A Case Study in Sri Lanka. The book was completed and launched in December 2016. Subproject is financially closed.
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### Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

#### Environmental Aspects

- **Involuntary Resettlement**
- **Indigenous Peoples**

#### Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

- **During Project Design**
  - Shared project design with selected groups of stakeholders outside government as well.
- **During Project Implementation**
  - On an ongoing basis and as and when needed (such as with academic institutions and experts in the region in organizing the SARD Economists' Conference).

### Business Opportunities

- **Consulting Services**
  - Inputs to the project will consist of a total of 21 person-months of international, 92 person-months of national consulting services, and 36 person-months of regional institution(s). The consultants will be engaged by ADB in accordance with the Guidelines on the Use of Consultants by ADB and Its Borrowers (2010, as amended from time to time). Engagement of regional institution(s) will be through quality-and-cost-based selection (using 80:20 weighting for quality-cost ratio). All payments will be made in accordance with the Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (May 2010, as amended from time to time).

### Responsible ADB Officer

- **Tadateru Hayashi**

### Responsible ADB Department

- **South Asia Department**

### Responsible ADB Division

- **Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Div, SARD**

### Executing Agencies

- **Asian Development Bank**

### Timetable

- **Concept Clearance**
  - 18 Nov 2011
- **Fact Finding**
  - -
- **MRM**
  - -
- **Approval**
  - 14 Dec 2011
- **Last Review Mission**
  - -
- **Last PDS Update**
  - 29 Mar 2019

### TA 7997-REG

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### Project Page

- [https://www.adb.org/projects/45282-001/main](https://www.adb.org/projects/45282-001/main)

### Request for Information


### Date Generated

- 24 October 2019

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