Regional: Unlocking Innovation for Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Unlocking Innovation for Development</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Number</td>
<td>49242-001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Regional</td>
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<td>Project Type / Modality of Assistance</td>
<td>Technical Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of Funding / Amount</td>
<td>TA 9017-REG: Unlocking Innovation for Development</td>
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<td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td>
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<td>$5.00 million</td>
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Strategic Agendas: Inclusive economic growth
Drivers of Change: Knowledge solutions, Partnerships

Sector / Subsector:
- Education - Pre-primary and primary
- Finance - Inclusive finance
- Health - Health care finance
- Transport - Road transport (non-urban)
- Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Other urban services - Urban sanitation

Gender Equity and Mainstreaming: Some gender elements

Description:
The midterm review of the Asian Development Bank’s (ADB) long-term strategic framework acknowledges that to maintain and sustain growth in Asia and the Pacific, regional economies need greater innovation and inclusiveness. In ADB’s context, innovation is finding new ways for ADB to serve and address development challenges in its developing member countries. ADB has undertaken innovations in several areas including climate proofing for transport, bus rapid transport system, inclusive financial solutions, unified multi-purpose identification system for government, community eCenters, and building greener cities among others. In various instances, innovations tended to be one-off interventions and very few have attempted to replicate these on a broader scale. In this context, the proposed cluster regional research and development technical assistance (RDTA) with an implementation period of 5 years, will catalyze and establish a bank-wide mechanism for ADB’s regional departments and private sector operations department to implement grant and loan financed pilot initiatives more flexibly. Through selected proposals the RDTA will demonstrate mechanisms for piloting, replicating, and scaling up innovation, and ways to measure how these deliver results.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy:
The RDTA draws on ADB’s previous experience and that of its development partners such as Australia, Canada, USAID, and World Bank, to develop a robust mechanism for providing small grants that demonstrate path breaking solutions to development challenges. It also attempts to respond to the demand from development partners, using ADB-supported projects to catalyze the ability of ADB to replicate, scale up, and mainstream innovation. These efforts align further with ADB’s midterm strategic focus to unlock innovation in project, process and human resource practices. The RDTA will support cross-sector knowledge activities in the work programs of the ADB’s Sector and Thematic groups that would stimulate innovative knowledge solutions that could deliver smarter outcomes through ADB operations departments in the DMCs.

Impact:
The TA is aligned with capacity of DMCs to solve development problems using innovative solutions strengthened.

Project Outcome:

Description of Outcome:
ADB loans and grants supporting scaled-up innovative solutions in DMCs increased.

Progress Toward Outcome:

Implementation Progress:

Description of Project Outputs:
1. Cross-sector innovative solutions to address DMC development problems implemented
2. Crowdsourcing platform for pilot-testing development solutions and business models implemented
The TA Executing Agency will be ADB through SDCC (specifically the Knowledge Sharing and Services Center) in close collaboration with all departments. It is SDCC-KC Output 1. Five activity team meetings have been held to date (Oct 2016; Jan 2017; Mar 2017 July 2017 and Sep 2017). Meetings with individual

Asian Development Bank

04 Apr 2018

SDOD

09 Dec 2015

Last PDS Update

Approval

MRM

Last Review Mission

Last PDS Update
## TA 9017-REG

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<th>Financing Plan/TA Utilization</th>
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Date Generated: 25 May 2019

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