China, People's Republic of: Strengthening Provincial Planning and Implementation for the Yangtze River Economic Belt

**Project Name:** Strengthening Provincial Planning and Implementation for the Yangtze River Economic Belt

**Project Number:** 49363-001

**Country:** China, People's Republic of

**Project Status:** Closed

**Project Type / Modality of Assistance:** Technical Assistance

**Source of Funding / Amount:**

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In August 2015, the Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) requested the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to support reducing the regional development gap between the eastern, central, and western reaches of the Yangtze River. During a reconnaissance mission in October 2015, an agreement was reached on the scope, implementation arrangements, and estimated budget for the technical assistance (TA) to Strengthening Provincial Planning and Implementation for the Yangtze River Economic Belt (YREB). The support would help implementing the *Guidelines on promoting the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt building on the Golden Waterway_, which were issued by the State Council in 2014; and the _Economic development plan for the Yangtze River Economic Belt_, which is expected to be issued by the end of 2015.

The PRC Government identified the YREB as one of the three key growth engines to ensure the PRC's future economic development. The corridor along the PRC's longest river covers more than 2 million square kilometers, one-fifth of the country geographically. This economic backbone currently accounts for over 40% of the PRC's total population and about 45% of the gross domestic product. The Yangtze River, one of the busiest inland rivers for freight traffic worldwide, is home to the largest hydropower plant in the world and is the source of water for the South-North water transfer project. Ten provinces and one municipality make up the Yangtze economic belt subregion, which includes three major urban agglomeration areas: (i) the Yangtze River Delta Global Mega Agglomeration focused on Shanghai, (ii) the Middle Yangtze City Cluster focused on Wuhan, and (iii) the Yangtze Upper Reaches focused on Chongqing.

### Project Outcome

**Investment planning among local governments in middle and upper reaches of the YREB strengthened**

**Workshop on international financial institutions' lending modalities was held in Beijing in July 2016 by ADB and NDRC to brief priority provincial governments on lending of ADB and WB for YREB.** Since then, three workshops were held in Beijing and Guiyang, PRC.
Description of Project Outputs
Government directions and priorities of industrial transformation of YREB analyzed
Investment opportunities for industrial transformation in selected municipalities in the middle and upper reaches of YREB identified
Human resource development needs assessed

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)
NDRC is currently soliciting from priority provincial governments investment proposals on industrial transformation in selected municipalities.

Geographical Location
Yangtze River

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement
Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design

Workshop on international financial institutions’ lending modalities was held in Beijing in July 2016 by ADB and NDRC to brief priority provincial governments on lending of ADB and WB for YREB. Since then, three workshops were held in Beijing and Guiyang, PRC.

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services
The NDRC will be supported by 14 person-months (pm) of international and 30 pm of national consulting services. The consultants will be engaged following ADB’s Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time) through individual consultant selection method. Individual consultant selection is considered the most efficient method as the consultants will be supervised by different cross-sectoral teams in EARD. The environment, natural resources, and agriculture division will take the lead for the administration of the TA. Disbursements will be in line with ADB’s Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2010, as amended from time to time). It is anticipated that the consultants will be mobilized during the first quarter of 2016. Resource persons will be engaged to assist in the preparation of presentation materials, and make presentations during the in-country workshops and consultation. One full-time administrative support staff will be engaged for 12 pm to assist the NDRC in the coordination of the TA, and the organization of workshops and consultations.

Responsible ADB Officer
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Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division, EARD

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Timetable

Concept Clearance
12 Nov 2015
Fact Finding
-
MRM
-
Approval
14 Dec 2015
Last Review Mission
-
Last PDS Update
17 Sep 2018

TA 9044-PRC

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