# Regional: Facilitating the Use of Country Safeguard Systems and Strengthening Safeguards Delivery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Facilitating the Use of Country Safeguard Systems and Strengthening Safeguards Delivery</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Number</td>
<td>50235-001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Regional</td>
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<td>Project Status</td>
<td>Active</td>
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<td>Project Type / Modality of Assistance</td>
<td>Technical Assistance</td>
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<td>Source of Funding / Amount</td>
<td>TA 8354-REG: Facilitating the Use of Country Safeguard Systems and Strengthening Safeguards Delivery</td>
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## Strategic Agendas
- Environmentally sustainable growth
- Inclusive economic growth

## Drivers of Change
- Governance and capacity development
- Knowledge solutions

## Sector / Subsector
- Transport - Transport policies and institutional development

## Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
- Some gender elements

## Description
The proposed knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will strengthen country safeguard systems, and support their application to identify and manage the environmental and social risks associated with ADB-supported projects. This will be achieved through the conduct of country safeguard system (CSS) assessments and capacity building activities on the CSS assessment methodology, including on how to undertake equivalence and acceptability assessments as required by the Safeguard Policy Statement (2009).

## Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy
The TA will facilitate the use of CSS in ADB operations. It will support DMCs to conduct country safeguard reviews, undertake a capacity building program for in-country stakeholders and consultants on the methodologies for policy equivalence and acceptability assessments, and strengthen collaboration on CSS among development partners. The TA will support realizing the benefits of using CSS, such as: (i) reduce excessive transaction costs of complying with ADB project safeguards; (ii) enhance borrower/client’s sense of ownership of environmental and social safeguards; (iii) create alignment of safeguard policy compliance to the capacity of individual borrowers/clients; and (iv) enhance donor harmonization.

## Impact
Environmental and social sustainability of development projects enhanced.

## Project Outcome
**Description of Outcome**
Use of CSS in ADB operations supported

**Progress Toward Outcome**
Country safeguards acceptability and equivalence assessments for Indonesia and Sri Lanka are currently undergoing comprehensive review. Updates on the preliminary assessments for BAN, VIE commenced in January 2019, while engagement of legal policy researchers for BHU, CAM, MYA and THA is ongoing.

## Implementation Progress
**Description of Project Outputs**
Equivalence and acceptability assessments conducted. Capacity development activities on use and strengthening of country safeguard systems undertaken. Interagency collaboration on CSS strengthened.

**Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)**
Consultations with the government of SRI for CSS for Road Development Authority is scheduled between 1-10 April 2019. Provided financial and technical support to University of the Philippines National Engineering Center for conduct of trainings on (i) Environmental and Social Management of Construction held in Cagayan de Oro City from 10-13 April 2018; and (ii) Involuntary Resettlement held 16-19 October 2018 at the UP NEC Seminar Room in UP Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines. Joint Community of Practice (CoP) meeting was held in Manila, Philippines from 11-13 September 2018, composed of representatives.

## Geographical Location
Regional

## 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
Zehra Abbas

## Responsible ADB Department
Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department

## Responsible ADB Division
SDSS
TA 9354-REG

Milestones

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approval</th>
<th>Signing Date</th>
<th>Effectivity Date</th>
<th>Closing</th>
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<td>10 Aug 2017</td>
<td>31 Jul 2019</td>
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Financing Plan/TA Utilization

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