Regional: Promoting Low-Carbon Development in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program Cities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Promoting Low-Carbon Development in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program Cities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Number</td>
<td>50287-001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Regional Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, People’s Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan</td>
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<td>Project Status</td>
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<td>Project Type / Modality of Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of Funding / Amount</td>
<td>TA 9308-REG: Promoting Low-Carbon Development in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program Cities</td>
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<td>Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund</td>
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<td>Governance Cooperation Fund</td>
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<td>People’s Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund</td>
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<td>Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund</td>
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<td>Clean Energy Fund under the Clean Energy Financing Partnership Facility</td>
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<td>TA 9308-REG: Promoting Low-Carbon Development in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program Cities (Supplementary)</td>
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<td>Clean Technology Fund</td>
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Strategic Agendas
- Environmentally sustainable growth
- Inclusive economic growth
- Regional integration

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

Sector / Subsector
- Agriculture, natural resources and rural development - Forestry - Land-based natural resources management
- Energy - Electricity transmission and distribution - Energy efficiency and conservation - Renewable energy generation - biomass and waste - Renewable energy generation - solar
- Information and communication technology - ICT strategy and policy, and capacity development
- Public sector management - Law and judiciary - Public administration
- Transport - Urban public transport - Urban roads and traffic management
- Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Other urban services - Urban flood protection - Urban housing - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development - Urban solid waste management - Urban water supply

Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
- No gender elements

Description
This regional capacity development technical assistance (TA) aims to support cities in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) program countries to strengthen their capacity to undertake climate actions to further enhance sustainable, inclusive, and prosperous economic development. The impact of the TA will be the achievement of the NDCs for Kazakhstan, Mongolia, and the PRC. The outcome will be the mainstreaming of climate actions in city investment plans in Kazakhstan, Mongolia, and the PRC.

The TA has the following outputs:
Output 1: Sustainable data management systems for greenhouse gas data assessed and enhanced at city level. To properly monitor a city's progress in reducing GHGs and enable comparison with the progress of other cities, it is important to have agreed-upon accounting and reporting standards. The TA will use the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC). This project component will facilitate developing and sustaining data management systems for GHG data, promoting multistakeholder engagement and participation. It also includes information technology and communication systems, and training in GPC and other relevant open data methodologies and procedures.

Output 2: Recommended investment road maps for low-carbon economic growth at selected cities developed. This output will support selected pilot cities to build road maps for low-carbon urban development.

Output 3: A source book on successful practices and measures driving low-carbon economic development at city level developed and disseminated. Successful practices and measures implemented by CAREC cities have not been fully identified, recorded, or disseminated. The source book will disseminate knowledge and lessons, including through global high-level events, and further enhance developing country cooperation on climate change.

Output 4: Strengthened capacity for low-carbon city development. This output will consist of a series of capacity building workshops, in which CAREC cities will be encouraged to commit to developing their own low-carbon city road maps by learning from the experiences of pilot cities. City government officials, experts, and other relevant stakeholders (including academia, think tanks, and relevant sector-specific organizations that contribute to low-carbon city development) will learn how to enhance low-carbon development.
The pace of urbanization is increasing in many Asian Development Bank (ADB) developing member countries, including those involved in the CAREC program. If not properly managed, urbanization can increase pressure on energy and natural resources; increase pollution and production of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; and threaten the ability of cities in the CAREC region (CAREC cities) to cope better with climate change and other environmental challenges. Some CAREC cities have already been impacted by climate change and extreme weather events, such as floods and droughts, which contribute to the need for enhanced capacities and strategies to reduce GHG emissions in the region.

During Project Design

The representative from Yokohama City expressed that the forum was a platform to discuss the fast pace of urbanization and how cities can contribute to the global carbon agenda. Experiences from European countries and several PRC pilot cities were shared. Parallel meetings were held to discuss the development of cities that are low carbon and climate resilient.

Supporting Tool by Deltares; and Low-Carbon City Mapping tool by Kinesis. Using smart card system data, the detailed analysis made by World Resources Institute (WRI) and ICLEI-US plan to explore options to build online GHG inventory platform under RETA.

The progress of RETA output 2 on Recommended investment road maps for low-carbon economic growth at selected cities developed: A source book on successful practices and measures driving low-carbon economic development at city level and disseminated.

The progress of RETA output 3 on A source book on successful practices and measures driving low-carbon economic development at city level developed and disseminated: The first publication on ‘50 Climate Solutions from Cities in the PRC’ was finalized and launched in the international low-carbon city conference in Astana in June 2018. We also received requested from many CAREC countries for its translation in Russian and Mongolian.

The progress of RETA output 4 on Capacity for low-carbon city development among CAREC countries expanded: The International Forum on Low Carbon Cities held in Astana in June 2018. The Progress Report on Low Carbon Development in CAREC countries and a focus on urban low-carbon development and transformation is a logical, strategic way to help CAREC countries achieve their NDC targets. Empowering city governments will enable them to develop strategic plans and successfully execute climate actions with effective sectoral and cross-sectoral measures to create greater impacts and synergy. Supporting these cities to create a system that creates a critical mass is essential. The TA is designed to support these goals is also essential.

The TA is aligned with ADB’s Strategy 2020, which highlights the importance of supporting action on climate change in ADB developing member countries, and with the Strategy 2020 midterm review, which identified the need for an increased focus on the environment and climate change.

Capacity for low-carbon city development among CAREC countries expanded: A total of 235 participants from CAREC countries, including those involved in the CAREC program, submitted their nationally determined contribution (NDC) targets to express their commitment. As the Paris agreement came into force, to meet their NDC targets, currently CAREC program will need additional capacity building and technology transfer, as well as access to sufficient financial resources. Among CAREC countries, Kazakhstan committed to reduce its 2030 GHG emissions by 25% compared to 1990 levels, under the condition that international support for finance and technology transfer is provided. Mongolia set a target to increase the share of renewable electricity capacity to 30% of the total electricity generation capacity and to reduce building heat loss by 40% by 2030 compared to 2010 levels. The People’s Republic of China (PRC) set a target to have carbon emissions peak by 2030, and committed to an even earlier peak. Support is urgently needed to assist CAREC countries in achieving these targets.

Cities play a critical role in the CAREC program, and a focus on urban low-carbon development and transformation is a logical, strategic way to help CAREC countries achieve their NDC targets. Empowering city governments will enable them to develop strategic plans and successfully execute climate actions with effective sectoral and cross-sectoral measures to create greater impacts and synergy. Supporting these cities to create a system that creates a critical mass is essential. The TA is designed to support these goals is also essential. The TA is aligned with ADB’s Strategy 2020, which highlights the importance of supporting action on climate change in ADB developing member countries, and with the Strategy 2020 midterm review, which identified the need for an increased focus on the environment and climate change.

Through support for (i) clean investments, (ii) sustainable transport, (iii) climate adaptation, (iv) integrated management of disaster and climate risks, (v) better natural resource management, (vi) policies and capacity strengthening, and (vii) access to global and regional funds. The TA is also aligned with ADB’s Priorities for Action on addressing climate change in Asia and the Pacific.
During Project Implementation

At Astana pilot city, the Astana Low Carbon Development Strategy Working Group was initiated by the Astana City Mayor and consists of key government officials and experts. The working group held two meetings in January and February 2018. RETA co-sponsored and joined the second meeting of the working group, which was chaired by the Deputy Mayor of Astana and discussed Methodology and Mechanisms of Astana City Transition to Low-Carbon Development with relevant stakeholders including international and national NGOs. Since then, RETA team, through endorsement from Astana city government, is working closely with Ecological Association, a national NGO in development low carbon strategy 2050.

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services

The requirement for consultants is estimated at 150 person-months and in accordance with the Asian Development Bank's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time), using the quality- and cost-based selection method with a quality-cost ratio of 90:10 by requiring the submission of a simplified technical proposal covering all aspects of the terms of reference, consulting firms will be engaged, comprising three international consultants (36 person-months), and 26 national consultants (114 person-months).

Responsible ADB Officer

Na Won Kim

Responsible ADB Department

East Asia Department

Responsible ADB Division

EASI

Executing Agencies

Asian Development Bank

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Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable

Concept Clearance

31 Aug 2016

Fact Finding

-

MMR

-

Approval

06 Apr 2017

Last Review Mission

-

Last PDS Update

28 Mar 2019

TA 9308-REG

Milestones

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<th>Approval</th>
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<th>Closing Original</th>
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<td>31 Dec 2019</td>
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Financing Plan/TA Utilization

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<td>Gov</td>
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Project Page

https://www.adb.org/projects/50287-001/main

Request for Information

http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=50287-001

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