Regional: Strengthening Institutions for Localizing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Strengthening Institutions for Localizing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Number</td>
<td>50385-001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Regional Micronesia, Federated States of China, People’s Republic of Marshall Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Status</td>
<td>Active</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Type / Modality of Assistance</td>
<td>Technical Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of Funding / Amount</td>
<td>TA 9387-REG: Strengthening Institutions for Localizing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (Supplementary) People’s Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund US$ 500,000.00 TA 9387-REG: Strengthening Institutions for Localizing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development Technical Assistance Special Fund US$ 1.00 million TA 9387-REG: Strengthening Institutions for Localizing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (Supplementary) Technical Assistance Special Fund US$ 800,000.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Strategic Agendas
- Inclusive economic growth
- Regional integration

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

Sector / Subsector
- Public sector management - Decentralization

Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
- Some gender elements

Description
The proposed knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will improve the institutional capacity of selected Asian Development Bank (ADB) member countries (DMCs) to localize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In response to DMC demand, the proposed TA will add value to the programs and operations of regional departments by supporting (i) the strengthening of awareness, knowledge, and skills for effective localization of the SDGs in selected DMCs; (ii) testing of innovative institutional capacity interventions for localizing SDGs in selected DMCs; and (iii) enhancing dialogue, including among developing countries, on good practices in SDG localization. The proposed TA is included in the 2017 work program of the Governance Thematic Group (GovTG). It builds on previous knowledge activities of the GovTG, such as the conferences conducted jointly with the Development Partners Network on Decentralization and Local Governance (DeLoG) in August 2015 and September 2016, and the international conference on the Role of Managing for Development Results in Achieving the SDGs (June 2017). The proposed TA also takes into account the lessons from a series of learning programs on Multi-Stakeholder Engagement for Reform in different settings. The TA is aligned with recent ADB strategy and policy papers on public sector management, institutional performance, and capacity development, and factors in lessons from past and ongoing decentralization and local governance operations in countries such as Cambodia, the People’s Republic of China (PRC), Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines.

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy
In September 2015, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted Agenda 2030 (Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development), which includes 17 SDGs and 169 targets, as a new reference for global development efforts. ADB supports its DMCs in achieving the SDGs through a customized approach with respect to sustainable development investments and enhanced financing needs, and by incorporating sustainability into its corporate results framework and reporting processes.

Unlike the Millennium Development Goals, which were highly centralized, the SDGs capture environmental, economic, political, and social dimensions of development more holistically. While the text of the SDGs does not contain an explicit call for localizing the SDGs, local governments are recognized directly or indirectly in many of the goals, notably in Goal 11 (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable) and Goal 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels).

Subnational governments have a critical role in implementing and achieving the SDGs, including those where localization is not explicitly mentioned, because (i) the experience of developed countries suggests that as economic and population growth and urbanization increase a greater share of public investments and spending will occur at the local level; (ii) addressing global resource challenges and constraints such as pollution, biodiversity loss, and climate change will require close involvement of subnational governments; and (iii) subnational governments are closer to citizens and better positioned to provide opportunities for the poor and marginalized to be heard. The proposed TA will support implementation of the roadmap for localizing the SDGs developed by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Habitat to support cities and regions to deliver the 2030 agenda; roadmap development included an intensive consultation process.

Many DMCs lack the institutional capacity to localize the SDGs, and institutional strengthening is needed with respect to: (i) multilevel governance systems defined by national governments (i.e., related to functional assignments, intergovernmental fiscal relations, and national subnational development plan integration); (ii) subnational governmental processes, to ensure that regulations, planning and budgeting processes; service delivery mechanisms; and infrastructure investments are responsive to SDG goals; and (iii) transparent and participatory multi-stakeholder engagement processes involving local governments and parliaments, citizens, and the private sector to ensure accountability on SDG target achievement, drawing on adequate national and subnational monitoring systems.

Impact
Performance of institutions in DMCs for localizing Agenda 2030 commitments for sustainable development improved.

Project Outcome
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Outcome</th>
<th>Institutional capacity of selected DMCs to localize the SDGs improved.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Progress Toward Outcome</td>
<td>The Technical Assistance (TA) project is aligned with the following impact: performance of institutions in Asian Development Bank (ADB) Developing Member Countries (DMCs) for localizing Agenda 2030 commitments for sustainable development improved. The outcome will be: institutional capacity of selected DMCs to localize the Sustainable Development Goals improved. Project implementation started in December 2017. On 23 March 2018, an additional allocation of $500,000 from the People’s Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund (PRCF) was granted, increasing the total TA amount to $1,500,000.</td>
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<td>Implementation Progress</td>
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Description of Project Outputs

Awareness, knowledge, and skills for effective localization of the SDGs in selected DMCs strengthened.

Innovative institutional capacity interventions for localizing SDGs in selected DMCs tested.

Dialogue (globally, and among developing countries) on effective localization of the SDGs enhanced.
Project implementation started in December 2017. On 23 March 2018 an additional allocation of $500,000 from the People’s Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund (PRCF) was granted to increase the total TA budget to $5.0 million.

An International Decentralization and Local Governance/Capacity Development and Learning Specialist was mobilized in December 2018 to monitor international developments and emerging country practices on the Localizing SDG Snapshots initiative.

On 2 September 2019, (i) an increase in TA amount by $800,000, (ii) a minor change in TA scope and implementation arrangements, and (iii) an extension of the TA completion date to 30 September 2020 were approved, increasing the total TA budget to $5.8 million and allowing for additional capacity development and knowledge management.

Output 1: Awareness, knowledge, and skills for effective localization of the Sustainable Development Goals in selected developing member countries strengthened.

On 29 March 2019, the IDG met to develop and localize the National Government Implementation Support Module (NGISM) toward the SDG Localisation Network (LSN), in close coordination with the SouthEastAsia Network on Localizing SDGs Network (SEAL-SDGs).

A thematic session on Localizing the SDGs in the 13th Annual Meeting of the Decentralization and Local Government Network was held in The Hague, Netherlands on 21-23 May 2019. The project office continued to provide support to the project planning and execution, project officer participation in the thematic session and the topic of the project office participation in the thematic session on the Localizing the SDGs, the international resource person also presented a Governance Brief titled ‘Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals: Accelerating the Implementation of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development’.

An International Seminar on Localizing Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Management for Development Results, was held in Seoul, South Korea on 27-30 August 2018 in cooperation with the Korean Institute of Public Finance (KIPF) and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank. The event provided an opportunity for government officials and experts to discuss strategies for improving management for development results, focusing on the challenges and opportunities facing Managing for Development Results practice in the context of the SDGs. The TA funded five resource persons to provide training presentations and regional perspectives on topics related to localizing the SDGs, government and stakeholders' roles in managing the SDGs, results management, and sharing of lessons learned. An International Strategic Consultant was mobilized in February 2019 and June 2019, respectively. An International Project Manager was mobilized in 2019 while the three National Strategic Consultants in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Philippines were mobilized in 2020.

In Malaysia, the national Project Manager supported the TA to plan and organize the events. The TA funded two resource persons to design the events and to manage the budgets. The event was attended by over 150 participants from related offices from districts and municipalities.

In Indonesia, the national Project Manager supported the TA to plan and organize the events. The TA funded two resource persons to design the events and to manage the budgets. The event was attended by over 150 participants from related offices from districts and municipalities.

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Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects
Involuntary Resettlement
Indigenous Peoples
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design
During Project Implementation

Business Opportunities
Consulting Services
ADB will select, supervise, and evaluate all consultants. The TA is estimated to require 17 person-months of international consultant and 60 person-months of national consultant services, using individual consultants with expertise in governance, public sector management, decentralization and local governance, and/or capacity and institutional development. All consultants shall be engaged following the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time), using output-based, lump-sum out-of-pocket contracts wherever possible. The terms of reference for consultants will be further developed when specific TA activities are undertaken.

Responsible ADB Officer
Shrestha, Rachana
Responsible ADB Department
Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department
Responsible ADB Division
SDTC-GOV
Executing Agencies
Asian Development Bank
6 ADB Avenue,
Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable
Concept Clearance
12 Jul 2017
Fact Finding
-
MRM
-
Approval
05 Oct 2017
Last Review Mission
-
Last PDS Update
27 Sep 2019

TA 9387-REG

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<th>Approval</th>
<th>Signing Date</th>
<th>Effectivity Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>05 Oct 2017</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>05 Oct 2017</td>
<td>30 Sep 2020</td>
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<td></td>
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Project Page
https://www.adb.org/projects/50385-001/main
Request for Information
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