**PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
POVERTY REDUCTION AND
REGIONAL COOPERATION FUND
2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

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Notes:

In this publication, “\$” refers to United States dollars.
ADB recognizes “China” as the People’s Republic of China and “Korea” as the Republic of Korea.

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Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AEW	Asia Evaluation Week
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEAN+3	ASEAN plus Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea
BIMP-EAGA	Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area
BRI	Belt and Road Initiative
CAREC	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
CWRD	Central and West Asia Department, ADB
DMC	developing member country
EARD	East Asia Department, ADB
ECD	economic corridor development
ERCD	Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB
GMS	Greater Mekong Subregion
IED	Independent Evaluation Department, ADB
IMT-GT	Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
MOF	Ministry of Finance, PRC
OCO	Office of Cofinancing Operations, ADB
OCRPF	Office of the Compliance Review Panel, ADB
PARD	Pacific Department, ADB
PRC	People's Republic of China
RCI	regional cooperation and integration
RKSI	(ADB–PRC) Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative
SARD	South Asia Department, ADB
SDCC	Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB
SDPF	Partner Funds Division, SDCC, ADB
SERD	Southeast Asia Department, ADB
SEZ	special economic zone
SPS	sanitary and phytosanitary
TA	technical assistance
TCR	technical assistance completion report
TFA	trade facilitation agreement
TRTA	transaction technical assistance
WSS	water supply and sanitation
WTO	World Trade Organization

Executive Summary

Since its inception in March 2005, the People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund (PRC Fund) has approved 104 applications representing 95 technical assistance (TA) and grants with a total cost of \$50.06 million. Of the 104 approved applications, 102 totaling \$49.09 million were approved between 2005 and 2018 by the PRC Ministry of Finance (MOF) and 2 others worth a total of \$0.98 million were approved in the first 3 months of 2019. Public sector management, industry and trade, energy, agriculture, natural resources, and rural development have been among the sectors covered.

In 2018, seven knowledge and support TA projects totaling \$5.6 million were approved. These involve the provision of policy advice and capacity-building services in energy, transport, industry and trade, water and urban development, and public sector management in developing member countries (DMCs) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The volume of approved applications in 2018 marked another high point in annual approvals representing continuous growth since the Fund's establishment.

As of 31 December 2018, 90 projects had been approved by ADB after the PRC MOF's approval. Of this total, 53 projects (59%) have financially closed, 35 (39%) remain active, and two have elapsed. Forty-seven of the 53 completed projects have TA completion ratings of either highly successful (15%) or successful (72%), for an overall success rate of 87%.

The PRC Fund introduced various initiatives in 2018 to boost administrative efficiency and client engagement, and thus further improve its services to ADB and DMC clients. These new approaches included the first online application and monitoring system for a trust fund in ADB; the first East Asia Trust Fund road show, held jointly with the Japan and Republic of Korea trust funds; the Fund's newsletter; and program planning in applications management. The Fund also prioritized support for transaction technical assistance, particularly project preparation, in late 2018, to better meet the requirements of ADB's Strategy 2030 and establish closer links with ADB's main operations.

The PRC Fund is the first trust fund established by an ADB DMC. After an initial contribution of \$20.0 million from the Government of the PRC in 2005, the Fund was replenished with \$20.0 million in March 2012 and \$50.0 million in July 2017, increasing the PRC's total contribution to \$90.0 million. The Fund is aimed at supporting poverty reduction, regional cooperation, and knowledge sharing through TA and grants that explore and benefit from synergies among the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC), and Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) programs. Within ADB, the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC) manages the Fund.

PRC Fund at a Glance

1st
TRUST FUND
Established by an ADB DMC

2
TYPES OF SUPPORT
Technical assistance
Grant

3
PILLARS
Poverty reduction
Regional cooperation
Knowledge sharing

\$90 million
TOTAL
CONTRIBUTION

14
YEARS OF
SUPPORT

104
APPROVED
APPLICATIONS

Operational Highlights

2014–2018

\$ million, number of projects

ADB = Asian Development Bank, DMC = developing member country.
Source: ADB database.

2018 Approvals

Approved
Applications

7

Knowledge and Support
Technical Assistance

\$5.6M

91% Regional

46% CAREC
\$2.6 M

45% Other
\$2.5 M

9% Country-Specific
Bangladesh
\$0.5 M

38% Industry and Trade
\$2.1 M

18% Transport
\$1.0 M

18% Energy
\$1.0 M

14% Water and Other
Urban Infrastructure
and Services
\$0.8 M

13% Public Sector
Management
\$0.7 M

32% SDCC
\$1.8 M

32% CWRD
\$1.8 M

14% EARD
\$0.8 M

13% SERD
\$0.7 M

9% SARD
\$0.5 M

ADB = Asian Development Bank; CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation; CWRD = Central and West Asia Department, ADB; EARD = East Asia Department, ADB; SARD = South Asia Department, ADB; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB; SERD = Southeast Asia Department, ADB.

Notes: 1. "Other" refers to projects that involve countries from two or more regions.
2. Percentages may not total 100% because of rounding.

Source: ADB database.

ADB's Strategy 2030: Seven Operational Priorities

The seven approved applications in 2018 are closely aligned with ADB's seven operational priorities, as stated in Strategy 2030.

2018 Approvals

Project Number	Project Title	Strategy 2030: Seven Operational Priorities
TA 9572-REG	Enhancing Effectiveness of Subregional Programs to Advance Regional Cooperation and Integration in Southeast Asia
TA 9602-BAN	Knowledge Solutions for Inclusive and Sustainable Development
TA 9608-REG	Strengthening Knowledge and Actions for Air Quality Improvement
TA 9630-REG	Assessing Economic Corridor Development Potential Among Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan
TA 9641-REG	Railway Sector Development in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Countries
TA 9690-REG	Integrated High Impact Innovation in Sustainable Energy Technology - Energy System Analysis, Technology Road Maps and Feasibility Studies for Pilot Testing (Subproject 1)
TA 9712-REG	Implementing the Integrated Trade Agenda in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

Strategy 2030's Seven Operational Priorities

Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities	Accelerating progress in gender equality	Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability	Making cities more livable	Promoting rural development and food security	Strengthening governance and institutional capacity	Fostering regional cooperation and integration

ADB = Asian Development Bank, BAN = Bangladesh, REG = regional, TA = technical assistance.

Sources: ADB database; ADB. 2018. *Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific*. Manila.

Cumulative Portfolio 2005–2018

Approved
Applications

Technical Assistance
and Grants

104 \$50.06M

Note: Of the 104 approved applications, 102 totaling \$49.09 million were approved between 2005 and 2018 by the PRC Ministry of Finance (MOF) and 2 others worth a total of \$0.98 million were approved in the first 3 months of 2019.

ADB = Asian Development Bank; CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation; GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion; CWRD = Central and West Asia Department, ADB; EARD = East Asia Department, ADB; ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB; IED = Independent Evaluation Department, ADB; OCRP = Office of the Compliance Review Panel, ADB; OPPP = Office of Public-Private Partnership, ADB; PARD = Pacific Department, ADB; PPFD = Procurement, Portfolio and Financial Management Department, ADB; SARD = South Asia Department, ADB; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB; SERD = Southeast Asia Department, ADB.

Notes: 1. "Other" refers to projects that involve countries from two or more regions.

2. Percentages may not total 100% because of rounding.

Source: ADB database.

CHAPTER 1

Background

Overview

This annual report of the People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund (PRC Fund) for 2018 covers the period from 1 January to 31 December. It presents the background and objectives, project activities, and achievements of the Fund. Established in March 2005, the PRC Fund provides technical assistance (TA) and grants to developing member countries (DMCs)¹ of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for economic and social development.

Objectives

The PRC Fund aims to contribute to poverty reduction, regional cooperation and knowledge sharing, and economic and social development in ADB's DMCs in an accelerated manner and with tangible results. It does so by providing TA and grants that promote ADB's overarching goal of poverty reduction, as well as its Strategy 2030,² regional cooperation and integration (RCI) strategy,³ and knowledge management directions and action plan.⁴

Eligibility

The Fund supports six types of activities: (i) transaction technical assistance (TRTA), particularly project preparation support; (ii) DMC institutional development and capacity building; (iii) innovative and demonstrative programs and projects; (iv) knowledge sharing, including knowledge products and human resources development; (v) South–South knowledge exchange and dissemination activities between the PRC and other DMCs; and (vi) grants contributing to regional connectivity.

The Fund supports both regional and country-specific activities. For the regional component, efforts to harness synergies between the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS),⁵ and Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC)⁶ programs and ADB's RCI strategies and operations have priority. The PRC is not eligible as a sole beneficiary, but it can participate in regional activities supported by the Fund.

¹ ADB. Members. <http://www.adb.org/about/members>.

² ADB. 2018. *Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific*. Manila.

³ ADB. 2006. *Regional Cooperation and Integration Strategy*. Manila.

⁴ ADB. 2013. *Knowledge Management Directions and Action Plan (2013–2015): Supporting “Finance ++” at the Asian Development Bank*. Manila.

⁵ The Greater Mekong Subregion consists of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Myanmar, the People's Republic of China (PRC, specifically Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), Thailand, and Viet Nam.

⁶ The CAREC Program is a partnership of 11 countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, the People's Republic of China, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan), supported by six multilateral institutions, working together to promote development through cooperation, leading to accelerated growth and poverty reduction.

Processing of Technical Assistance and Grant Applications

ADB administers the Fund in accordance with ADB’s standard procedures for projects. Within ADB, the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC) acts as Fund manager,⁷ managing and coordinating the review and submission of applications and their approval by the PRC Ministry of Finance (MOF).

Project applications should (i) be aligned with ADB’s country partnership strategy (CPS), country operations business plan (COBP), and regional cooperation partnership strategy (RCPS); (ii) include discussions with key DMC stakeholders; (iii) disseminate and apply DMC expertise; (iv) encourage contributions, including in kind, from the beneficiary DMCs; and (v) use the Fund in the most cost-effective way.

Project applications are submitted to SDCC three times a year.⁸ SDCC does a preliminary review of the applications to ensure compliance with the implementing guidelines and eligibility criteria of the Fund, and prioritizes applications to be submitted to the PRC MOF for funding consideration. The PRC MOF confirms funding decisions on applications. After funding approval, the projects are to be processed following ADB’s standard policies, procedures, and guidelines for project approval. Project implementation, supervision, and monitoring are handled

by concerned departments and offices following ADB’s standard policies and procedures, including consulting services and procurement, social and environmental safeguards, financial management and reporting, and anticorruption and governance (Figure 1). To fulfill ADB’s fiduciary responsibilities, SDCC coordinates with the related departments and offices in the submission of annual progress reports, a project completion report assessing the performance of completed projects, an evaluation report on the Fund’s performance, and the Fund’s annual audited financial report.

Contributions of the Government of the People’s Republic of China

The Government of the People’s Republic of China made an initial contribution of \$20.0 million in March 2005. The first replenishment, amounting to \$20.0 million, followed in March 2012, and \$50.0 million more was added in July 2017, increasing the PRC’s total contribution to \$90.0 million.

Financial Status

As of 31 December 2018, the PRC MOF had approved a total of \$47.29 million for 91 TA projects and \$1.8 million for two grant projects. The Fund has a balance of \$43.74 million, available for future allocation.

Figure 1:

Approval Process for PRC Fund Technical Assistance and Grant Proposals

ADB = Asian Development Bank; CoMS = cofinance management system; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB. Source: PRC Fund Implementation Guidelines (2018).

⁷ Following its realignment in April 2019, the Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO) ceased to exist. The administration of the PRC Fund was transferred to a new Partner Funds Division (SDPF) under SDCC.

⁸ This process started in January 2018. The deadline set for applications is the end of April for the first batch, the end of July for the second, and the end of November for the third batch. Applications submitted in November are approved the following year.

CHAPTER 2

Overview of Fund Operations 2018

Approvals and Highlights

Seven applications totaling \$5.6 million were approved by the PRC MOF in 2018—the highest annual approval volume since the Fund’s establishment. The approved projects were in public sector management, industry and trade, water and other urban infrastructure and services, energy, and transport. Brief summaries of these projects can be found in Figure 2 and Appendix 1.

In October 2018, the PRC MOF broadened the Fund’s support to include transaction technical assistance (TRTA), in particular, project preparation support, to link the Fund more closely with ADB’s main operations and deliver tangible results to ADB’s DMCs.

Geographic Distribution. Regional⁹ projects received the majority of the funding in 2018, with CAREC getting 46%, followed by other regional projects (45%) such as ASEAN+3,¹⁰ BIMP-EAGA,¹¹ IMT-GT,¹² and APEC projects.¹³ Country-specific support made up

9% of the total. Bangladesh obtained its first country-specific TA support from the Fund, in support of national economic corridor development (Figure 3).

Sector Distribution. The Fund approved support for five sectors in 2018. Among the sectors, industry and trade (38%) had the largest share, followed by transport and energy (18% each), water and other urban infrastructure and services (14%), and public sector management (13%) (Figure 4).

ADB Department Distribution. The regional departments received \$3.8 million, or around 70% of total Fund approvals in 2018. The most sizable funding support—\$1.8 million (32%)—went to the Central and West Asia Department (CWRD). The East Asia Department (EARD) obtained 14%; the Southeast Asia Department (SERD), 13%; and the South Asia Department (SARD), 9%. SDCC received \$1.8 million, or around 32% of total Fund approvals in 2018 (Figure 5).

⁹ Regional projects are projects that fall exclusively under CAREC or the GMS, or under a mix of various regions and subregional programs (e.g., CAREC and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC; GMS and ASEAN+3).

¹⁰ ASEAN+3 comprises the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam) plus the PRC, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.

¹¹ BIMP-EAGA is the Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area initiative.

¹² IMT-GT is the Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle subregional program.

¹³ Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation comprises 21 member economies: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; the PRC; Peru; the Philippines; the Republic of Korea; the Russian Federation; Singapore; Taipei, China; Thailand; the United States; and Viet Nam.

Figure 2:

Approved Projects in 2018 and Their Alignment with Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities

Project Number	Project Title	Strategy 2030: Seven Operational Priorities
TA 9572-REG	Enhancing Effectiveness of Subregional Programs to Advance Regional Cooperation and Integration in Southeast Asia
TA 9602-BAN	Knowledge Solutions for Inclusive and Sustainable Development
TA 9608-REG	Strengthening Knowledge and Actions for Air Quality Improvement
TA 9630-REG	Assessing Economic Corridor Development Potential Among Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan
TA 9641-REG	Railway Sector Development in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Countries
TA 9690-REG	Integrated High Impact Innovation in Sustainable Energy Technology - Energy System Analysis, Technology Road Maps and Feasibility Studies for Pilot Testing (Subproject 1)
TA 9712-REG	Implementing the Integrated Trade Agenda in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

Strategy 2030's Seven Operational Priorities

Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities	Accelerating progress in gender equality	Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability	Making cities more livable	Promoting rural development and food security	Strengthening governance and institutional capacity	Fostering regional cooperation and integration

ADB = Asian Development Bank, BAN = Bangladesh, REG = regional, TA = technical assistance.

Sources: ADB database; ADB. 2018. *Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific*. Manila.

Figure 3:

Geographic Distribution, 2018

(% share of total amount)

CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation.
Note: "Other" refers to projects that involve countries from two or more regions.
Source: ADB database.

Figure 4:

Sector Distribution, 2018

(% share of total amount)

Note: Percentages may not total 100% because of rounding.
Source: ADB database.

Figure 5:

ADB Department Distribution, 2018

(% share of total amount)

ADB = Asian Development Bank;
CWRD = Central and West Asia Department, ADB;
EARD = East Asia Department, ADB;
SARD = South Asia Department, ADB; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB;
SERD = Southeast Asia Department, ADB.
Source: ADB database.

Project Activities in 2018 ¹⁴

Regional Promoting Regional Knowledge Sharing Partnerships

Sector: Public Sector Management

Amount: \$1.1 million

The Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative (RKSI) was established on 30 August 2012 by the Government of the PRC and ADB to promote South–South cooperation. Located at ADB’s PRC Resident Mission in Beijing, the RKSI is mandated to foster South–South knowledge sharing, in order to increase collaboration among developing countries and strengthen regional cooperation and integration. The RKSI provides a platform for knowledge exchange among ADB’s DMCs, supports regional knowledge-sharing events that build on knowledge partnerships, and is intended to serve as a catalyst for reciprocal knowledge creation and transfer between developing countries.

With financial support from the PRC Fund, the TA is aimed at supporting the identification, development, and sharing of knowledge solutions in DMCs, in close collaboration with partner institutions in the PRC and other DMCs. The TA, which is being implemented through the RKSI, has facilitated the development of knowledge-sharing events with key partner institutions in the PRC and other DMCs; the production of high-quality knowledge products; and the strengthening and expansion of knowledge-sharing networks and partnerships among key DMC institutions. Various RKSI events were held in 2018.

The **6th ASEAN+3 Village Leaders Exchange Program** gave the ASEAN countries (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam), plus Japan, the PRC, and the Republic of Korea, an opportunity to share good experiences in rural industrial development, the use of the agricultural value chain approach, and rural tourism. The program included a 3-day field visit to Hebian Village, Yunnan Province, in the PRC, an eco-friendly and culturally preserved tourist area jointly developed by the provincial government, a nongovernment organization, and the villagers.

ASEAN+3 village leaders visiting a village in Yunnan Province, PRC

Participants in the 6th ASEAN+3 Village Leaders Exchange Program discussing small-business development with residents of Hebian Village in Yunnan Province, PRC

Participants in the 6th ASEAN+3 Village Leaders Exchange Program visiting Hebian Village in Yunnan Province, PRC

¹⁴ This section summarizes project-related activities implemented in 2018 under six selected active projects supported by the Fund.

BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT, and GMS participants visiting the Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone in Shanghai, PRC

The **Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as Catalysts for Economic Corridors, Value Chains and Production Networks Training** featured a lively discussion of concepts, trends, good practices, and lessons for SEZ design, implementation, and management, and identified avenues for cross-border e-commerce development and cooperation. As part of the program, participants from the BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT, and GMS visited the Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone and gained a practical understanding of the role SEZs play in attracting foreign direct investment, promoting economic growth, and facilitating industrial upgrading and innovation.

The **Asia-Pacific Forum on Low-Carbon Technology 2018** showcased global, regional, and country-level success stories in promoting the development and deployment of low-carbon technologies. It sought to stimulate investment in low-carbon technologies throughout the region from public and private sources, and to facilitate both South-South and North-South technology transfer through networking and partnerships.

Delegates taking an exhibition walkabout during the Asia-Pacific Forum on Low-Carbon Technology 2018

Nepal

Support for Project Implementation of the Nepal Earthquake Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program

Sector: Education

Amount: \$600,000

On 25 April 2015, Nepal was struck by a 7.8 magnitude earthquake causing widespread damage and affecting as many as 8 million people. Preliminary estimates of direct damage totaled \$4.8–\$7.7 billion, equivalent to about 22%–35% of the country's gross domestic product. Private housing accounted for the largest share (\$1.2–\$3.9 billion), followed by education (\$250 million). To support the Government of Nepal in its efforts to rebuild schools, roads, and district-level government buildings and strengthen resilience to future disasters, ADB approved the Earthquake Emergency Assistance Project. The government requested ADB to provide TA support for the implementation of this loan project and for the strengthening of the government's institutional and technical capacity to (i) manage large-scale emergency assistance programs; (ii) monitor and evaluate programs; and (iii) plan, design, and implement school safety measures by integrating disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures to increase disaster resilience in the education sector.

One of the TA activities was a visit by key staff from relevant Nepal government agencies to the University of Engineering and Technology (UET) in Peshawar, Pakistan, to participate in the final testing under the experimental testing program for the earthquake resistance verification of prototype schools in remote areas of Nepal. UET has been engaged for this testing program under the TA project.

DRR training was also held at the Narayan Jana Secondary School, Chandragiri Municipality, Kathmandu, in November 2018 for representatives of the school management committee, teachers, and students.

The training made the participants more aware of disaster preparedness, mitigation, and response measures at the individual school level. They learned to identify disaster hazards, risks, and vulnerability, and to improve the capacity of the school to develop a school disaster management plan.

A delegate inspecting a school scale model at the University of Engineering and Technology in Peshawar, Pakistan, during the final testing for the earthquake resistance verification of prototype schools

Teachers and students from Narayan Jana Secondary School in Chandragiri Municipality, Kathmandu, Nepal, attending a school-based disaster risk reduction training program

Uzbekistan

Water and Sanitation Strategy Development and Capacity Building

Sector: Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services

Amount: \$800,000

Uzbekistan's urban water supply and sanitation (WSS) sector faces funding constraints and institutional challenges related to regulatory and institutional framework alignment, sector planning capabilities, regulatory compliance mechanisms, and interagency coordination and oversight. Since 2000, ADB has invested more than \$500 million in the rehabilitation and expansion of the country's WSS infrastructure, and assisted in the development of a phased, nationwide reform program, including the reorganization and consolidation of WSS sector institutions and the implementation of sector-wide reforms.

WSS sector reform has made substantial progress. Three key initiatives have nonetheless been identified as being critical to the ongoing reform process: (i) the formulation of a medium-term WSS sector development strategy to guide sector development from 2019 to 2028, (ii) targeted training and support for the institutional and operational capacity development of the State Unitary Enterprise Educational and Methodological Center Kommunalukuv, and (iii) revision of Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers (DCM) 306¹⁵ and other regulations on the basis of recent sector findings and emerging developments. The TA was intended to help the Agency Kommunnhizmat (Communal Services Agency) under the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services implement all three initiatives.

As part of the capacity-building component of the TA, the China Urban Construction Design & Research Institute Co., Ltd. (CUCD) was hired to help improve the institutional capacity of the national WSS training center.

The CUCD project team checking a filtration tank at the Chirchiq water supply plant

The CUCD project team inspecting a screening room at the Chirchiq wastewater plant

Aeration tank at the Chirchiq wastewater plant

The CUCD project team discussing technical solutions for the wastewater treatment facility in Uzbekistan

¹⁵ The Cabinet of Ministers issued DCM 306, "On measures to implement the main directions of development of the organizations of water supply and sanitation," on 30 October 2015.

Regional Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade

Sector: Industry and Trade

Amount: \$800,000

Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures exist to protect public health and promote plant and animal health and food safety. Increasing cooperation in the development and implementation of SPS standards and enhancing food safety are priorities under ADB's Strategy 2030 as well as under the CAREC 2030 Strategy. However, legislation, laboratory capacity, and coordination among border control agencies in CAREC countries must be improved to increase resilience to transboundary pests and diseases and strengthen agricultural trade. The Common Agenda for Modernization of SPS Measures for Trade (CAST), endorsed by CAREC in 2015, is aimed at promoting concerted reforms and modernization in the implementation of SPS measures consistent with international standards to facilitate trade in the region. It also emphasizes the need for SPS measures to work effectively and efficiently when part of a coordinated and integrated system.

The TA supports the implementation of CAST, particularly to (i) create national bodies and a regional body to lead the modernization process, (ii) develop SPS measures aligned with international standards, and (iii) improve the capability of border agencies to implement these measures.

Under the TA, national workshops in Mongolia, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as online question-and-answer (Q&A) sessions with national working groups in Mongolia and Pakistan, contributed to increased awareness and enhanced understanding of international best practices among SPS officials.

Further, country missions conducted a scoping review for an assessment of the capacity-upgrading needs of laboratory and border facilities in the Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, and supported the overall development of national SPS strategies including regulatory reforms in Mongolia.

Experts conducting an online Q&A session via video conferencing to support legislative reforms in Mongolia

An inspection officer conducting laboratory testing at the Zamyn-Uud border in Mongolia

A researcher explaining to external experts the testing procedures for samples of imported vegetables passing through Mongolia's borders

2018 Asian Evaluation Week

Making Evaluation Work at the Country Level

10–14 September 2018 | Chengdu, People's Republic of China

Regional Regional Evaluation Capacity Development II

Sector: Multisector

Amount: \$500,000

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is essential for measuring and assessing the development effectiveness of country programs.

The TA is aimed at supporting the development of evaluation capacity in ADB DMCs in the GMS and the CAREC program, promoting regional cooperation through knowledge sharing and cross-learning among participating GMS and CAREC countries regarding good evaluation practices, and facilitating M&E partnerships among practitioners and knowledge providers, such as regional centers of excellence and international M&E organizations.

The Asian Evaluation Week (AEW) is a major initiative under the TA. Conceptualized as a key evaluation knowledge-sharing event for the Asia and Pacific region, the AEW is jointly sponsored by the PRC MOF and ADB. It brings together government officials, international

organizations, and independent evaluation experts to exchange knowledge and the latest thinking on evaluation.

The inaugural AEW was held in Xi'an, PRC, in September 2016 and was attended by government officials, development partners, and evaluation experts from Asia and across the world, who exchanged evaluation experiences on a wide range of topics and expressed their buy-in for the AEW as a relevant forum for promoting partnerships and advancing evaluation work in Asia. The second AEW, in Hangzhou, PRC, in September 2017, was organized around the theme "Evaluation for Policymaking," with special focus on inclusive growth. It was attended by government officials; heads of evaluation units of ADB, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and United Nations agencies; evaluation experts from the academe; and country representatives.

The theme for the 2018 AEW, "Making Evaluation Work at the Country Level," recognized the increasingly critical role of evaluation in public policy, from the standpoint of accountability as well as learning. The 2018 AEW looked into how evaluation is used and can be supported at the country level. It was attended by around 240 evaluation experts from governments, international organizations, and the academe. Self-funded participants or participants with funding from other agencies in Africa, Latin America, and Europe also joined the discussions and shared their evaluation-related experiences.

Regional Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia

Sector: Transport

Amount: \$250,000

The BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT, and GMS Capacity Building Program for Connectivity (B-I-G Program) is a regional capacity development initiative with the aim of enhancing the capacity of government officials to develop policies, programs, and projects that support physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity in Southeast Asia and the PRC. The B-I-G Program provides opportunities for knowledge and experience sharing and networking between and among the three subregional programs, given their unique roles as building blocks for Asian integration. It is funded by ADB and the governments of the PRC and the Republic of Korea. Activities include training programs, knowledge events, and shared access to an internet-based information repository.

In 2018, the B-I-G Program collaborated with various knowledge and institutional partners, including the RKSI, located at ADB's PRC resident mission in Beijing, and the CAREC Institute. Two training programs were organized under the B-I-G Program and RKSI: (i) SEZs as Catalysts for Economic Corridors, Value Chains, and Production Networks Training, with government officials presenting in-depth analyses of their country experiences in SEZs, identifying success factors and challenges, providing key recommendations, and, at the end of the training, proposing a cooperation framework and action agenda for SEZ development, as well as SEZ projects under BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT, and the GMS; and (ii) the 12th ASEAN-China Forum on Social Development and Poverty Reduction, which gave representatives from ASEAN an opportunity to share their poverty reduction experiences and knowledge at the strategic, institutional, and project levels, and outlined a framework for future cooperation in poverty reduction between the PRC and ASEAN.

Further, the B-I-G Program, together with the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Customs Organization, the CAREC Institute, and ADB regional departments, organized a forum, Enhanced Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), in Bangkok, Thailand, at which representatives from across Asia and the Pacific shared their experiences and knowledge related to WTO-TFA

BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT, and GMS policy makers and development planners visiting the Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone

ADB Vice-President Stephen P. Groff at his presentation on ADB's support for poverty reduction

Forum delegates listening to private sector views on improvements in WTO-TFA implementation

implementation at the national level and in the context of regional cooperation. The intent was to provide new approaches to overcoming the challenges faced by ADB DMCs in implementing the WTO-TFA, and to expand inter-subregional networks of customs administrations, government agencies, and private sector representatives.

Children attending school in Barangay Katipunan in the Philippines.

PRC Fund Administration Enhancements

In 2018, the PRC Fund introduced various administration enhancement initiatives to improve its services to ADB clients. These involved: (i) designing and launching the first online application and monitoring system for a trust fund in ADB; (ii) conducting outreach programs such as the joint East Asia Trust Fund road show and individual PRC Fund outreach sessions; and (iii) releasing the Fund's newsletter, as well as introducing the Fund's Visibility Support Toolkit and Project Monitoring Platform.

In February 2018, the PRC Fund became the first trust fund to design and use an electronic Trust Fund Management System in ADB. The Cofinance Management System (CoMS) online project application replaced the offline hard-copy application used previously, thus improving administrative efficiency and user experience.

In April 2018, the PRC Fund joined the first East Asia Trust Fund road show in ADB together with the Japan

Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) and the e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund (EAKPF). This event was organized to brief the regional departments and related departments on the priorities and features of each trust fund in order to provide operational support to those departments. The Fund also had its own outreach session in February 2018, at which the Fund's priorities and application guidances, among others, were discussed with ADB project officers.

In October 2018, the Fund released its first newsletter, which provided highlights of its financial status, approvals, project performance, and project activities.

In November 2018, the Fund launched its Visibility Support Toolkit to help project officers share PRC Fund-supported activities with a wider audience within and outside ADB.

As a follow-up to its online project application, the PRC Fund's online Project Monitoring System became operational in December 2018, bringing out the Fund's focus on project performance and tangible results. The system allows project officers to update project data, milestones, and project progress online.

CHAPTER 3

Overview of Fund Operations 2005–2018

Cumulative Approvals

A total of 102 applications amounting to \$49.09 million were approved between March 2005 and December 2018.¹⁶ These included seven approvals of supplementary funding and two applications combined with prior approvals. The 102 approved applications represented 93 projects, of which 90 had already been approved by ADB as of 31 December 2018. Of the 90 approved projects, 53 (59%) have financially closed and 35 (39%) remain active; in the case of two other projects, the period for ADB approval, under Fund Implementation Guidelines, has elapsed and the funding allocation has been returned to the Fund pool. Appendix 2 provides a detailed list of all approved project applications from 2005 to 2018.

Cumulative Project Performance

As of 31 December 2018, 47 of the 53 completed projects had technical assistance completion report (TCR) ratings.¹⁷ Of the 47 projects supported by the Fund, 41 were rated either highly successful (15%) or successful (72%). The combined success rate of 87% matches the 86% 3-year success rate reported in the latest Development Effectiveness Report.¹⁸

Cumulative Portfolio Distribution

Geographic Distribution. Regional¹⁹ projects received the largest share (78%). Of this, 24% went to the GMS²⁰ and 22% to CAREC,²¹ indicating the priority assigned to these regions in line with Fund objectives. The rest (32%) went to other regional projects, including ASEAN+3 projects and projects in APEC²² member economies. Country-specific projects accounted for 22% of fund

support, distributed among countries in Central Asia (9%), Southeast Asia (5%), South Asia and East Asia (each with 3%), and the Pacific (2%) (Figure 6).

Sector Distribution. Public sector management (30%), industry and trade (15%), and energy (12%) made up more than half of Fund approvals. The rest was distributed among multisector (11%); agriculture, natural resources, and rural development (9%); water and other urban infrastructure and services (8%); and the finance, transport, education, health, and information and communication technology sectors (15%) (Figure 7).

ADB Department Distribution. The regional departments received 71% of the total Fund support. This went mainly to SERD (27%) and CWRD (23%), reflecting the prominence of assistance to the GMS and CAREC regions. The rest of the Fund was distributed among EARD (16%), SARD (3%), and, most recently, the Pacific Department (PARD) (2%). Funding for knowledge and capacity development projects (23%) was distributed between SDCC (13%) and the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) (10%). The remaining 7% financed the activities of various departments and offices, including results-based monitoring and evaluation by the Independent Evaluation Department (IED) (3%), and preparatory due diligence work by the Office of Public–Private Partnership (OPPP) to enable infrastructure projects to secure private sector financing and proceed to implementation (2%). The Procurement, Portfolio, and Financial Management Department (PPFD) and the Office of the Compliance Review Panel (OCP) each received 1% of the Fund (Figure 8).

¹⁶ Of the 104 approved applications, 102 totaling \$49.09 million were approved between 2005 and 2018 by the PRC Ministry of Finance (MOF) and 2 others worth a total of \$0.98 million were approved in the first 3 months of 2019.

¹⁷ The TCR ratings for the main project and the supplementary project were counted as one.

¹⁸ ADB. 2019. *Development Effectiveness Review 2018*. Manila.

¹⁹ Regional projects are projects that fall exclusively under CAREC or the GMS, or under a mix of various regions and subregional programs (e.g., CAREC and APEC, GMS and ASEAN+3).

²⁰ The Greater Mekong Subregion consists of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Myanmar, the People's Republic of China (PRC, specifically Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), Thailand, and Viet Nam.

²¹ The CAREC Program is a partnership of 11 countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, the People's Republic of China, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan), supported by six multilateral institutions and working together to promote development through cooperation, leading to accelerated growth and poverty reduction.

²² APEC comprises 21 member economies: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; the People's Republic of China; Peru; the Philippines; the Republic of Korea; the Russian Federation; Singapore; Taipei, China; Thailand; the United States; and Viet Nam.

Figure 6:

Geographic Distribution, 2005-2018

(% share of total amount)

CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation, GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion.
Note: "Other" refers to projects that involve countries from two or more regions, as well as a mix of subregional programs (e.g. CAREC and APEC, GMS and ASEAN+3).
Source: ADB database.

Figure 7:

Sector Distribution, 2005-2018

(% share of total amount)

Source: ADB database.

Figure 8:

ADB Department Distribution, 2005-2018

(% share of total amount)

ADB = Asian Development Bank; CWRD = Central and West Asia Department, ADB; EARD = East Asia Department, ADB; ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB; IED = Independent Evaluation Department, ADB; OCRP = Office of the Compliance Review Panel, ADB; OPPI = Office of Public-Private Partnership, ADB; PARD = Pacific Department, ADB; PPF = Procurement, Portfolio and Financial Management Department, ADB; SARD = South Asia Department, ADB; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB; SERD = Southeast Asia Department, ADB.
Note: Percentages may not total 100% because of rounding.
Source: ADB database.

Children benefiting from a water supply project at the Tete community in Papua New Guinea.

CHAPTER 4

Partnering the Way Forward

In 2018, the Fund approved seven projects supporting ADB's efforts in fighting poverty and promoting regional cooperation and integration through enhanced linkage with the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the CAREC Program, and the GMS in Asia and the Pacific.

With its uncommitted balance of \$43.74 million as of 31 December 2018 for future allocations,²³ the Fund will continue to strengthen its support for ADB's seven operational priorities under Strategy 2030 and encourage synergies across various regional cooperation initiatives, particularly BRI, CAREC, and GMS, and further improve its services to ADB and its DMC clients for their economic and social development.

²³ Allocations refer to new projects and administrative cost; available balance includes contribution receivables coming in 2018, 2019, and 2020 (the 2018 installment was delivered in June 2018), and is net of allocations approved by the PRC MOF and awaiting ADB approval.

APPENDIXES

Appendix 1 Brief Summaries of PRC Fund Projects Approved in 2018

TA 9572-REG **Enhancing Effectiveness of Subregional Programs to Advance Regional Cooperation and Integration in Southeast Asia**

Sector:
Public Sector Management

Amount:
\$700,000

Source: ADB. 2018.
Technical Assistance for Enhancing Effectiveness of Subregional Programs to Advance Regional Cooperation and Integration in Southeast Asia. Manila.

The Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) and the Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) are the building blocks of, and platforms for, regional cooperation and integration (RCI) of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). BIMP-EAGA is aimed at accelerating the socioeconomic development of lagging, marginalized, and geographically remote areas in member countries as part of a broader goal of narrowing development gaps within each country and between the subregion and ASEAN. IMT-GT plans call for fast-tracking the economic transformation of the states and provinces in member countries by exploiting complementarities and comparative advantages. The subregional programs are also intended to reduce inequalities and reflect shared global aspirations as outlined in Sustainable Development Goal 10, which can be achieved through systematic interventions at the subnational, national, and subregional levels.

Effective functioning of the two subregions is constrained by (i) weak strategic and institutional links and coordination with ASEAN; (ii) lack of well-designed RCI projects and weak results

monitoring; and (iii) limited capacity of government officials to develop and implement RCI policies, programs, and projects. The technical assistance is meant to strengthen links and coordination with ASEAN, improve project design, build the capacity of government officials, and promote the sharing of lessons and experiences of subregions in Southeast Asia by (i) organizing dialogues or workshops; (ii) identifying suitable sector-linking approaches; (iii) preparing thematic studies; and (iv) designing, implementing, and evaluating RCI training and workshops.

The TA's output consists of the following: (i) improved strategic, sector, and institutional links and coordination between subregional programs and the ASEAN; (ii) enhanced project development and managing for development results; and (iii) enhanced capacity of civil servants for the design and implementation of RCI policies, programs, and projects.

TA 9608-REG **Strengthening Knowledge and Actions for Air Quality Improvement**

Sector:
Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services

Amount:
\$800,000

Source: ADB. 2018.
Technical Assistance for Strengthening Knowledge and Actions for Air Quality Improvement. Manila.

Air pollution is the most pressing environmental concern and has become a major challenge to global health as a leading preventable cause of death. The World Health Organization (WHO) Global Ambient Air Quality Database 2018 shows that more than 80% of people living in urban areas that monitor air pollution are exposed to air quality levels that exceed WHO limits. While all regions of the world are affected, the impact is greatest on populations in low-income cities. Air pollution is one of the top risks leading to early death worldwide, and is responsible for more than \$5.11 trillion in welfare losses per year. The poor are more vulnerable to the health impact of air pollution because of poor nutrition and lack of access to medical care. Unless action is taken, human health risks and associated costs to society will rise rapidly.

The TA will support participating developing member countries (DMCs) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in enhancing their knowledge of, and capacity to develop, policy

actions and technological solutions, and build a business case for air quality management through the preparation of city-level clean air action plans (CAAPs), along with investment estimates for implementing CAAPs. The support will involve (i) conducting city-level air quality studies (focusing on the current situation, and its impact and management); (ii) identifying measures to address air quality, including innovative technological options, policy recommendations, and enabling capacity support; and (iii) preparing city-level CAAPs with investment estimates.

The TA's output will comprise (i) an assessment of the current air quality situation and management practices; (ii) an evaluation of innovative cost-effective technological and policy options for addressing air quality; and (iii) city-level CAAPs, along with investment estimates for air pollution control.

Appendix 1 Brief Summaries of PRC Fund Projects Approved in 2018

TA 9602-BAN

Knowledge Solutions for Inclusive and Sustainable Development

Sector:

Industry and Trade

Amount:

\$500,000

Source: ADB. 2018. *Technical Assistance to the People's Republic of Bangladesh for Knowledge Solutions for Inclusive and Sustainable Development*. Manila.

Bangladesh has achieved impressive economic and social development over the past decade. The average gross domestic product growth rate from 2009 to 2018 was 6.5%, and Bangladesh achieved a record high gross domestic product growth rate of 7.9% in fiscal year 2018. However, the country still faces a number of medium- to longer-term challenges, including low productivity, a narrow economic base, and growing inequality.

The TA will create innovative and operation-relevant knowledge solutions. Knowledge products on strategic issues for the economic transformation of Bangladesh and its core sectors, relevant to ADB's operations in the country, will be developed. The policy development and advisory work under the TA will include the preparation of background documents and input for overall policy making, development planning, sector development, and potential project development.

The TA is aimed at (i) preparing a comprehensive development plan for the Northeast Bangladesh Economic Corridor that will (a) identify the priority economic nodes to be developed; (b) pinpoint priority industries for future development along the corridor, including micro, small, and medium-sized

enterprises; (c) craft an infrastructure strategy that identifies priority infrastructure development projects across various sectors; (d) analyze opportunities for the country's successful integration into international economic corridors, including the Bangladesh–China–India–Myanmar Economic Corridor; and (e) recommend an appropriate set of policies and a corresponding institutional framework to streamline the regulatory process for setting up and operating businesses efficiently; (ii) producing knowledge products for inclusive and sustainable development that will cover various sectors and will deal with logistics development, infrastructure development, economic zone development, industry development, regional cooperation and integration, new and innovative technologies, rural development and food security, macroeconomic management, public–private partnership, social development, climate change and disaster risk management, and other analytical work relevant to ADB's operations in Bangladesh; (iii) and enhancing the institutional capacity and knowledge of policy makers and government officials through (a) development forums on issues faced by Bangladesh; (b) policy workshops; (c) knowledge dissemination activities; and (d) other means, such as site visits and study visits for relevant officials.

TA 9712-REG

Implementing the Integrated Trade Agenda in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

Sector:

Industry and Trade

Amount:

\$800,000

Source: ADB. 2019. *Technical Assistance for Implementing the Integrated Trade Agenda in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program*. Manila.

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA) 2030 was endorsed at the 17th Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Ministerial Conference in November 2018. CITA 2030 is intended to assist CAREC members in integrating further with the global economy through trade expansion from increased market access, greater diversification, and stronger institutions for trade. The TA will support the implementation of CITA 2030 through activities such as policy advice, research, and capacity development.

The TA is aimed at (i) providing knowledge support for increasing market access by giving policy advice and conducting capacity-building activities to

support CAREC countries in adopting open-trade policies and deepening customs cooperation; (ii) producing and disseminating policy research on economic diversification through policy research work in areas such as investment policies and cross-border investment measures, expansion of services trade and its support services, and promotion of digital trade, innovation, and regional value chain development; (iii) and strengthening the capacity of trade institutions for policy coordination, analysis, and negotiation by promoting better coordination of sectoral policies and priorities, providing a platform for discussing trade issues in a synergistic manner, and supporting activities that will improve data collection and information sharing among CAREC countries

TA 9630-REG

Assessing Economic Corridor Development Potential Among Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan

Sector:

Industry and Trade

Amount:

\$800,000

Source: ADB. 2018. *Technical Assistance for Assessing Economic Corridor Development Potential Among Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan*. Manila.

Central Asia is undergoing an economic recovery and benefiting from positive regional dynamics with the opening of Uzbekistan. Under the new circumstances, Central Asian countries—particularly Uzbekistan and neighboring Kazakhstan and Tajikistan—are keen to harness the potential of RCI to promote growth, create jobs, and improve the quality of life of their citizens. Trade has been identified in these countries as an enabling driver in diversifying economies from a narrow base (overreliance on natural resources) into a more broad-based and sustainable growth model, for enhanced export competitiveness. Further, the growing trend of regional and global production networks, value chains, and new technologies, coupled with improved information and communication technology, is creating the necessary conditions for Central Asia and CAREC member countries to increase participation in regional and global trade. A CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030 is being formulated to facilitate this process.

The TA will support the assessment of economic corridor development (ECD) potential among Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, with focus on the major cities of Shymkent, Khujand, and Tashkent, and the neighboring oblasts of Turkestan, Sughd, and Tashkent. The TA was designed in response to demand from ADB's DMCs under the CAREC Program to explore new ECDs that will open up business development, employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities, as ECD is an important element in the implementation of the CAREC 2030 strategy.

This TA is designed to support scoping and pre-feasibility studies to explore the ECD potentials of the cities of Shymkent, Khujand, and Tashkent, and the neighboring Turkestan, Sughd, and Tashkent oblasts. The TA will support spatial economic development, including trade analysis, to identify possible economic complementarities among the

three cities and oblasts, such as (i) agglomeration of certain economic activities, (ii) scale economies in focus sectors or areas and products, (iii) integration of manufacturing value chains, and (iv) economic and industrial cluster development for specialized products. It will identify major constraints, gaps, and weak links—in terms of physical infrastructure connectivity (e.g., information and communication technology constraints) and policy environment (e.g., for private sector investment), including the investment needed—in the full exploitation of economic complementarities through an envisaged ECD. The TA will also support workshops and seminars that promote ECD-related knowledge sharing and awareness raising to enhance understanding and knowledge of ECD in the CAREC region. As ECD has great potential for creating job opportunities for women through participation in cross-border activities (e.g., tourism and trade), the above-mentioned studies will also attend to gender equality as a crosscutting issue in the ECD analysis.

The TA is aimed at (i) analyzing the prospects and potentials of increased trade integration among the cities of Shymkent, Khujand, and Tashkent, and the neighboring oblasts of Turkestan, Sughd, and Tashkent, by supporting a scoping study on trade analysis; (ii) analyzing the prospects and potentials of an envisaged Shymkent–Khujand–Tashkent tripartite ECD with possible expansion to the neighboring Turkestan, Sughd, and Tashkent oblasts, by supporting a pre-feasibility study that will analyze economic interactions and trade links, and identify possible sectors or areas and products to be synergized, as well as major constraints, gaps, weak links, and the needed investments; and (iii) strengthening knowledge sharing and awareness raising related to economic corridor development by supporting workshops, conferences, and stakeholder consultations on ECD-related knowledge sharing and awareness.

Appendix 1 Brief Summaries of PRC Fund Projects Approved in 2018

TA 9641-REG Railway Sector Development in Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation Countries

Sector:
Transport

Amount:
\$1,000,000

Source: ADB. 2018. *Technical Assistance for Railway Sector Development in Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation Countries*. Manila.

Transport remains the primary vehicle for regional cooperation and integration in CAREC countries. To transform CAREC countries from landlocked to land-linked, the CAREC Program supports the expansion of trade and the improvement of economic development through closer connections between the CAREC region and its larger and rapidly growing neighbors. Central Asia has great potential to benefit from growing Eurasian transit traffic and intraregional trade. The development of an effective, efficient, sustainable, safe, and user-friendly multimodal corridor network is the primary means of achieving this goal. Transport has therefore remained the largest sector of activity in the 17-year history of the CAREC Program, accounting for more than 80% of investments totaling \$25 billion. CAREC countries are increasing their emphasis on railways for regional connectivity. Transport activities are guided by the Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy 2020, approved by CAREC countries in 2013, which recognizes the need for balanced development of different modes. Particular emphasis is placed on developing railway transport, given its dominant role in external trade and transit.

The TA will accelerate the sound development of the railway subsector in

CAREC countries¹ through railway transport market research, project identification and preparation, knowledge sharing, and capacity development.

The TA is intended to (i) develop a subregional rail traffic model that will indicate main traffic flows by origin and destination and type of cargo; (ii) establish a project preparation facility that will facilitate swift mobilization of expertise to screen project options, perform pre-feasibility studies or validate existing pre-feasibility or feasibility studies, and support the prioritization and initial conceptualization of investments; (iii) publish and/or present to relevant stakeholders knowledge products, and conduct events in common areas of interest in sector reform and commercialization, such as state-owned enterprise restructuring, financial restructuring, asset management, tariff regulation, border-crossing policies, and interoperability; and (iv) improve the capacity of executing agencies for project preparation, particularly in key areas required for the development of bankable projects, such as procurement, financial and economic project evaluation, safeguards, and gender mainstreaming.

TA 9690-REG Integrated High Impact Innovation in Sustainable Energy Technology – Energy System Analysis, Technology Road Maps and Feasibility Studies for Pilot Testing (Subproject 1)

Sector:
Energy

Amount:
\$1,000,000

Source: ADB. 2018. *Technical Assistance for Integrated High Impact Innovation in Sustainable Energy Technology*. Manila.

The Sustainable Development Goals and nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement encourage a transformative change in production systems, employment patterns, technologies, behaviors, and lifestyles to enable poverty reduction and transition toward low-emission production and consumption. The TA will prepare energy system development scenarios and technology road maps, and support the scale-up of innovative energy technologies in ADB's DMCs.

The TA is aimed at (i) producing energy system scenarios and technology road maps; (ii) producing city-, country-, or region-specific feasibility studies for pilot

projects or investments; (iii) pilot-testing innovative technologies; (iv) preparing and publishing pre-feasibility analyses for carbon capture, use, and storage; and (v) disseminating regional knowledge sharing and supporting the scale-up of innovative technologies and suitable business models.

Knowledge sharing is a major component supported by the TA. One major event that the TA will support is the annual Asia Clean Energy Forum, an ADB flagship event. The forum has significantly helped raise ADB's profile in the energy sector and has gained recognition among ADB DMCs and development partners as a source of knowledge and expertise.

¹ CAREC consists of 11 countries: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, the People's Republic of China, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

Appendix 2 Projects Funded by the PRC Fund, 2005–2018

	Project Title	Project Number ^a	Department	PRC Fund Approved Amount (\$'000)	MOF PRC Approval Date	TA/Grant Approval Date ^b	Completion/Expected Completion Date	Status	TCR Rating
2005 Approvals				4,100					
Batch 1				2,300					
1	Support to Trade Facilitation and Capacity Building in GMS	6328-REG	SERD	400	03-Jun-05	19-Jul-06	31-Dec-10	Closed	S
2	Development Study of the GMS Economic Corridors	6310-REG	SERD	400	03-Jun-05	20-Mar-06	14-Nov-12	Closed	S
3	Implementation of the Greater Mekong Subregion Cross-Border Transport Agreement	6307-REG	SERD	400	03-Jun-05	06-Mar-06	28-Sep-12	Closed	S
4	Enhancing the Business Environment in GMS	6266-REG	SERD	200	03-Jun-05	31-Oct-05	28-Nov-08	Closed	U
5	Greater Mekong Subregion Phnom Penh Plan for Development Management Phase II (supplementary)	6237-REG	SERD	500	03-Jun-05	27-Jul-05	30-Apr-09	Closed	S
6	Capacity Building for Regional Cooperation in Central Asia	6288-REG	CWRD	400	03-Jun-05	16-Dec-05	28-Feb-09	Closed	S
Batch 2				1,800					
7	Partnership on Persistent Organic Pollutants Pesticides Management for Agricultural Production in Central Asian Countries	6339-REG	CWRD	400	22-Dec-05	25-Aug-06	16-Oct-08	Closed	PS
8	Technical Training and Capacity Building for Selected ASEAN+3 Countries on Regional Economic and Financial Monitoring	6342-REG	ERCD	500	22-Dec-05	12-Sep-06	31-Mar-11	Closed	S
9	Strengthening Carbon Financing for Regional Grassland Management in Northeast Asia	7534-REG	EARD	400	22-Dec-05	17-May-10	30-Sep-14	Closed	S
10	Expansion of Subregional Cooperation in Agriculture in the Greater Mekong Subregion	6324-REG	SERD	250	22-Dec-05	23-Jun-06	12-Oct-10	Closed	S
11	Support to Trade Facilitation and Capacity Building in the GMS ^c	6328-REG	SERD	250	22-Dec-05	19-Jul-06	31-Dec-10	Closed	S
2006 Approvals				2,970					
Batch 1				1,670					
12	Support Preparations for the CAREC Business Development Forum	6340-REG	CWRD	200	13-Jun-06	25-Aug-06	30-Apr-07	Closed	S
13	Enhancement of Subregional Cooperation in BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT	6352-REG	SERD	250	13-Jun-06	07-Nov-06	30-Nov-09	Closed	S
14	Expansion of Subregional Cooperation in Agriculture in the Greater Mekong Subregion ^d	6324-REG	SERD	350	13-Jun-06	23-Jun-06	12-Oct-10	Closed	S
15	Capacity Building for Designing, Negotiating and Implementing Free Trade Agreements in Selected Asian Developing Member Countries	6345-REG	ERCD	500	13-Jun-06	02-Oct-06	20-Sep-12	Closed	S
16	ASEAN+3 Regional Guarantee and Investment Mechanism - Phase 2	6373-REG	ERCD	300	13-Jun-06	18-Dec-06	27-Jun-11	Closed	HS
17	Second ASEAN+3 Seminar on Poverty Reduction	6382-REG	EARD	70	13-Jun-06	15-Sep-06	30-Mar-07	Closed	NR
Batch 2				1,300					
18	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Capacity Development for Regional Cooperation in CAREC Participating Countries, Phase I	6375-REG	CWRD	500	01-Dec-06	18-Dec-06	30-Nov-10	Closed	S
19	Transboundary Animal Disease Control for Poverty Reduction in the Greater Mekong Subregion	6390-REG	SERD	300	01-Dec-06	27-Mar-07	11-Oct-16	Closed	PS
20	CAREC Members Electricity Regulators Forum	6389-REG	CWRD	500	01-Dec-06	26-Mar-07	17-Dec-09	Closed	S

Appendix 2 Projects Funded by the PRC Fund, 2005–2018

	Project Title	Project Number ^a	Department	PRC Fund Approved Amount (\$'000)	MOF PRC Approval Date	TA/Grant Approval Date ^b	Completion/Expected Completion Date	Status	TCR Rating
2007 Approvals				4,022					
Batch 1				2,522					
21	Strengthening Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation, 2007–2011	6409-REG	CWRD	500	02-Jul-07	27-Aug-07	31-Aug-13	Closed	S
22	Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening of the ASEAN Free Trade Area Units of Selected ASEAN Member Countries (Phase 1)	6451-REG	ERCD	500	02-Jul-07	28-Mar-08	30-Sep-14	Closed	S
23	Enhancing the Development Effectiveness of the GMS Economic Cooperation Program (supplementary)	6262-REG	SERD	500	02-Jul-07	18-Sep-07	30-Jun-12	Closed	S
24	GMS Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative (Phase 1, supplementary)	6289-REG	SERD	500	02-Jul-07	11-Feb-08	31-Jan-16	Closed	S
25	GMS Public Health Forum on Regional Cooperation in Communicable Disease Control and Health Systems Development (supplementary)	6413-REG	SERD	22	02-Jul-07	07-Nov-07	30-Apr-10	Closed	HS
26	Capacity Building for Monitoring and Evaluation in Participating Countries	6410-REG	IED	500	02-Jul-07	03-Sep-07	25-Nov-11	Closed	S
Batch 2				1,500					
27	Phnom Penh Plan for Development Management Phase III (supplementary)	6407-REG	SERD	500	16-Nov-07	07-Mar-08	31-Jan-12	Closed	HS
28	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute 2009–2012	6488-REG	CWRD	500	16-Nov-07	24-Sep-08	25-Sep-15	Closed	S
29	Supporting Boao Forum for Asia	6444-REG	ERCD	500	16-Nov-07	13-Feb-08	08-Mar-11	Closed	S
2008 Approvals				4,250					
Batch 1				2,250					
30	Enhancing Transport and Trade Facilitation in the Greater Mekong Subregion	6450-REG	SERD	500	24-Jun-08	28-Mar-08	22-Dec-14	Closed	S
31	Transboundary Animal Disease Control for Poverty Reduction in the Greater Mekong Subregion (supplementary) ^e	6390-REG	SERD	200	24-Jun-08	27-Feb-09	11-Oct-16	Closed	PS
32	Mongolia: Developing a Computable General Equilibrium Modeling Framework for Analyzing the Impact of Power Trading between Mongolia and People's Republic of China	6494-REG	EARD	150	24-Jun-08	16-Oct-08	14-Sep-11	Closed	S
33	Development Study of the GMS Economic Corridors (supplementary) ^f	6310-REG	SERD	400	24-Jun-08	07-Jul-08	14-Nov-12	Closed	S
34	Regional Knowledge and Partnership Networks for Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth	6502-REG	SDCC	500	24-Jun-08	14-Nov-08	28-Oct-16	Closed	PS
35	Capacity Development for National Economic Policy Analysis and Development Management, Phase III	7226-CAM	SERD	500	24-Jun-08	12-Jan-09	27-Nov-13	Closed	S
Batch 2				2,000					
36	Capacity Development for Monitoring and Evaluation	7348-REG	IED	500	17-Dec-08	17-Sep-09	31-Mar-16	Closed	NR
37	Implementing the Greater Mekong Subregion Human Resource Development Strategy Framework and Action Plan 2009–2011	7275-REG	SERD	500	17-Dec-08	29-Apr-09	12-Feb-14	Closed	S
38	Accelerating the Implementation of the Core Agriculture Support Program	6521-REG	SERD	500	17-Dec-08	23-Dec-08	05-Jul-16	Closed	S
39	Deposit Insurance Establishment	7337-REG	EARD	500	17-Dec-08	27-Aug-09	18-Mar-13	Closed	S

Appendix 2 Projects Funded by the PRC Fund, 2005–2018

	Project Title	Project Number ^a	Department	PRC Fund Approved Amount (\$'000)	MOF PRC Approval Date	TA/Grant Approval Date ^b	Completion/Expected Completion Date	Status	TCR Rating
2009 Approvals				2,000					
Batch 1				1,000					
40	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Working with the Private Sector in Trade Facilitation	7353-REG	EARD	500	31-May-09	25-Sep-09	31-Dec-15	Closed	PS
41	Asia Pacific Procurement Partnership Initiative	7437-REG	PPFD	500	31-May-09	11-Dec-09	25-Jul-17	Closed	S
Batch 2				1,000					
42	Strengthening Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation, 2007-2011(supplementary) ^g	6409-REG	CWRD	500	09-Dec-09	22-Feb-10	31-Aug-13	Closed	S
43	GMS Phnom Penh Plan (PPP) for Development Management, Phase IV (supplementary)	7431-REG	SERD	500	09-Dec-09	05-Feb-10	31-Jul-13	Closed	S
2010 Approvals				1,000					
Special Batch				1,000					
44	Supporting the Boao Forum for Asia in Regional Economic Integration and Partnership Dialogues	7651-REG	OCO ^h	500	06-May-10	22-Nov-10	30-Oct-15	Closed	S
45	Strengthening the Coordination of the GMS Program	7561-REG	SERD	500	06-May-10	15-Jul-10	30-Apr-18	Closed	S
2011 Approvals				1,300					
Batch 1				500					
46	Regional Program for Research and Capacity Development on Water Security	7845-REG	SDCC	500	15-Apr-11	12-Aug-11	20-Jan-16	Closed	S
Batch 2				800					
47	Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth Network in Asia Pacific (supplementary) ⁱ	6502-REG	SDCC	400	20-Nov-12	29-Apr-13	28-Oct-16	Closed	PS
48	Support for Pan-Beibu Gulf Economic Cooperation ^j	8017-REG	EARD	400	20-Nov-12	13-Dec-11	31-Mar-16	Closed	NR
2012 Approvals				2,600					
Batch 1				1,400					
49	Provision of Knowledge Products and Services to DMCs through Systematic Knowledge	8392-REG	ERCD	500	20-Nov-12	30-May-13	01-Feb-19	Closed	S
50	GMS Phnom Penh Plan for Development Management, Phase V (supplementary)	8225-REG	SERD	500	20-Nov-12	22-Jan-13	30-Oct-15	Closed	HS
51	Supporting Capacity Development Needs of CAREC 2020	8301-REG	CWRD	400	20-Nov-12	17-Dec-12	30-Jun-20	Active	
Batch 2				1,200					
52	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS and Other Communicable Diseases in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Countries	8367-REG	CWRD	300	01-Mar-13	09-May-13	31-Dec-15	Cancelled ^k	U
53	CAREC Trade Facilitation Program: Promoting Cooperation in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	8386-REG	EARD	500	01-Mar-13	18-Jun-13	17-Dec-15	Closed	HS
54	Technical Training and Capacity Building for Selected Asian Countries on Regional Economic and Financial Monitoring - Phase II	8433-REG	ERCD	400	01-Mar-13	16-Aug-13	19-Feb-16	Closed	S

Appendix 2 Projects Funded by the PRC Fund, 2005–2018

	Project Title	Project Number ^a	Department	PRC Fund Approved Amount (\$'000)	MOF PRC Approval Date	TA/Grant Approval Date ^b	Completion/Expected Completion Date	Status	TCR Rating
2013 Approvals				3,325					
Batch 1				2,100					
55	South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation Power System Expansion	8412-NEP	SARD	500	20-Jun-13	30-Jul-13	01-Jul-17	Closed	NR
56	Second GMS Corridor Towns Development Project	8425-REG	SERD	500	20-Jun-13	13-Aug-13	02-Nov-17	Closed	NR
57	Promoting Regional Knowledge Sharing Partnerships	8430-REG	EARD	600	20-Jun-13	16-Aug-13	02-Apr-19	Closed	NR
58	Design of e-Governance Master Plan and Review of ICT Capacity in Academic Institutions	8398-MYA	SDCC	500	20-Jun-13	04-Jul-13	28-Dec-15	Closed	HS
Batch 2				1,225					
59	Developing Local Currency Bonds for Infrastructure Finance in ASEAN+3	8510-REG	SDCC	225	13-Nov-13	21-Nov-13	29-Feb-16	Closed	HS
60	Implementing the Greater Mekong Subregion Human Resource Development Strategy Framework and Action Plan Phase II	8549-REG	SERD	500	13-Nov-13	09-Dec-13	31-Dec-17	Closed	NR
61	Asia-Pacific Community of Practice on Managing for Development Results - Strengthening Knowledge Partnerships on MfDR	8636-REG	SDCC	500	13-Nov-13	08-Apr-14	27-Jan-16	Closed	S
2014 Approvals				3,800					
Batch 1				1,500					
62	Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative in the GMS, Phase 2 (supplementary) ⁱ	7987-REG	SERD	500	23-Jun-14	12-Dec-14	30-Jun-18	Elapsed	
63	Study for a Power Sector Financing Road Map within CAREC	8727-REG	CWRD	500	23-Jun-14	26-Sep-14	29-Mar-17	Closed	S
64	CAREC: Working with the Private Sector in Trade Facilitation (Phase 2)	8746-REG	EARD	500	23-Jun-14	30-Oct-14	20-Oct-19	Active	
Batch 2				2,300					
65	CAREC Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation	8789-REG	CWRD	400	10-Dec-14	12-Dec-14	31-Jul-19	Active	
66	Harmonizing the GMS Power Systems to Facilitate Regional Power Trade	8830-REG	SERD	500	10-Dec-14	16-Dec-14	31-Dec-19	Active	
67	Infrastructure Public-Private Partnership Pipeline Development Support	8908-REG	OPPP	750	10-Dec-14	23-Jun-15	01-Aug-19	Active	
68	Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia (supplementary)	8836-REG	SERD	250	10-Dec-14	28-May-15	29-Mar-19	Closed	NR
69	Greater Mekong Subregion: Capacity Development for Economic Zones in Border Areas	8989-REG	SERD	400	10-Dec-14	12-Nov-15	04-Apr-19	Closed	NR
2015 Approvals				4,025					
Batch 1				1,225					
70	Strategy for Northeast Asia Power System Interconnection	9001-MON	EARD	500	23-Jul-15	27-Nov-15	15-Aug-19	Active	
71	Supporting the Asian Exim Banks Forum	8973-REG	OCO ^m	500	23-Jul-15	05-Oct-15	04-Oct-20	Active	
72	Provision of Knowledge Products and Services to Developing Member Countries through Systematic Knowledge Sharing (supplementary) ⁿ	8392-REG	ERCD	225	23-Jul-15	03-Nov-15	01-Feb-19	Closed	S

Appendix 2 Projects Funded by the PRC Fund, 2005–2018

	Project Title	Project Number ^a	Department	PRC Fund Approved Amount (\$'000)	MOF PRC Approval Date	TA/Grant Approval Date ^b	Completion/Expected Completion Date	Status	TCR Rating
Batch 2				2,800					
73	Universal Health Coverage for Inclusive Growth: Supporting the Implementation of the Operational Plan for Health 2015-2020 (supplementary)	8983-REG	SDCC	500	06-Jan-16	17-Aug-16	31-Dec-20	Active	
74	Capturing the Opportunities and Addressing the Risks (supplementary)	8978-KGZ	CWRD	200	06-Jan-16	17-Nov-16	31-Dec-19	Active	
75	Promoting Regional Knowledge Sharing Partnerships (supplementary) ^o	8430-REG	EARD	500	06-Jan-16	21-Nov-16	31-Dec-18	Active	
76	Regional Evaluation Capacity Development II	9118-REG	IED	500	06-Jan-16	18-May-16	31-Dec-19	Active	
77	Connecting the Railways of the Greater Mekong Subregion	9123-REG	SERD	500	06-Jan-16	21-Jun-16	12-Dec-18	Closed	NR
78	Support for Project Implementation of the Nepal Earthquake Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program (supplementary)	8910-NEP	SARD	600	06-Jan-16	4-Mar-16	31-Dec-19	Active	
2016 Approvals				4,950					
Batch 1				3,750					
79	Strengthening Water Security in the Aral Sea Basin ^p	TBD	CWRD	500	11-Jul-16	TBD	TBD	Elapsed	
80	Policy Coordination and Planning of Border Economic Zones of the PRC and Viet Nam	9293-REG	EARD	400	11-Jul-16	10-Jan-17	29-Mar-19	Active	
81	Energy Supply Improvement Investment Program (Tranche 2)	0523-AFG	CWRD	1,000	11-Jul-16	5-Dec-16	30-Jun-23	Active	
82	Strengthening Knowledge Management in Central and West Asia (supplementary)	8936-REG	CWRD	650	11-Jul-16	18-Nov-16	15-Mar-19	Active	
83	Advancing RCI through BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT (supplementary)	8814-REG	SERD	700	11-Jul-16	31-Aug-16	06-Feb-19	Closed	NR
84	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Supporting Capacity Development Needs of CAREC 2020 (supplementary) ^q	8301-REG	CWRD	500	25-Oct-16	8-Dec-16	30-Jun-20	Active	
Batch 2				1,200					
85	Promoting Green Local Currency Denominated Bonds for Infrastructure Development ASEAN+3	9294-REG	ERCD	500	27-Dec-16	24-Jan-17	30-Jun-19	Active	
86	Promoting Low Carbon Development in CAREC Program Cities	9308-REG	EARD	700	27-Dec-16	06-Apr-17	31-Dec-19	Active	
2017 Approvals				5,150					
Batch 1				5,150					
87	Revitalizing the Ecosystem of Ravi River Basin	9463-PAK	CWRD	550	08-Dec-17	12-Dec-17	30-Sep-19	Active	
88	Water and Sanitation Strategy Development and Capacity Building	9481-UZB	CWRD	800	08-Dec-17	21-Dec-17	28-Feb-21	Active	
89	Enhancing Regional Knowledge Sharing Partnership	9531-REG	EARD	750	08-Dec-17	15-Jun-18	31-Jul-20	Active	
90	Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade	9500-REG	EARD	800	08-Dec-17	13-Feb-18	30-Sep-20	Active	
91	Capacity Building Support for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Financial Regulators Training	9501-REG	ERCD	600	08-Dec-17	12-Feb-18	31-Dec-19	Active	
92	Strengthening Asia's Financial Safety Nets and Resolution Mechanisms	9497-REG	ERCD	125	08-Dec-17	29-Jan-18	30-Dec-20	Active	
93	Strengthening Compliance Review and Accountability to Project Affected Persons of Financial Intermediaries	9466-REG	OCRP	225	08-Dec-17	14-Dec-17	04-Feb-19	Closed	S
94	Water Supply Scheme for Tete Settlement	0638-PNG	PARD	800	08-Dec-17	21-Feb-19	30-Jun-21	Active	
95	Strengthening Institutions for Localizing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (supplementary)	9387-REG	SDCC	500	08-Dec-17	23-Mar-18	31-Dec-20	Active	

Appendix 2 Projects Funded by the PRC Fund, 2005–2018

Project Title	Project Number ^a	Department	PRC Fund Approved Amount (\$'000)	MOF PRC Approval Date	TA/Grant Approval Date ^b	Completion/Expected Completion Date	Status	TCR Rating
2018 Approvals			6,575					
Batch 1			2,800					
96	Enhancing Effectiveness of Subregional Programs to Advance Regional Cooperation and Integration in Southeast Asia	9572-REG	SERD	700	28-Jun-18	22-Aug-18	31-Dec-20	Active
97	Knowledge Solutions for Inclusive and Sustainable Development	9602-BAN	SARD	500	28-Jun-18	01-Oct-18	31-Aug-21	Active
98	Strengthening Knowledge and Actions for Air Quality Improvement	9608-REG	SDCC	800	28-Jun-18	05-Oct-18	30-Sep-21	Active
99	Implementing Integrated Trade Agenda in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program	9712-REG	EARD	800	28-Jun-18	15-Feb-19	30-Jun-21	Active
Batch 2			2,800					
100	Assessing Economic Corridor Development Potential Among Shymkent Tashkent and Khujand	9630-REG	CWRD	800	09-Oct-18	31-Oct-18	31-Dec-20	Active
101	Railway Sector Development in Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation Countries	9641-REG	CWRD	1,000	09-Oct-18	14-Nov-18	31-Dec-22	Active
102	Integrated High Impact Innovation in Sustainable Energy Technology	9690-REG	SDCC	1,000	09-Oct-18	13-Dec-18	30-Sep-23	Active
Batch 3			975					
103	Developing an Accountability Mechanism Framework for Financial Intermediaries ^c	9718-REG	OCRP	225	01-Mar-19	07-Mar-19	30-Nov-19	Active
104	Proposed 2019 Loan – Bangladesh Southwest Transmission Grid Expansion Phase 2 Project Additional Component Financed by PRC Fund ^d	TBD	SARD	750	01-Mar-19	TBD	TBD	FP
Total Committed Funds			50,067					
Total PRC Commitment^e			64,000					
Balance			13,933					

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; ASEAN+3 = ASEAN plus Japan, People's Republic of China, and Republic of Korea; BIMP-EAGA = Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines–East Asian Growth Area; CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation; CWRD = Central and West Asia Department, ADB; DMC = developing member country; EARD = East Asia Department, ADB; ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB; FP = for processing; GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion; HS = highly successful; ICT = information and communication technology; IED = Independent Evaluation Department, ADB; IMT-GT = Indonesia–Malaysia Third Growth Triangle; MfDR = Managing for Development Results; MOF = Ministry of Finance, PRC; PARD = Pacific Department, ADB; PPF = Procurement, Portfolio and Financial Management Department, ADB; PRC = People's Republic of China; RCI = regional cooperation and integration; S = successful; SARD = South Asia Department, ADB; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB; SERD = Southeast Asia Department, ADB; TA = technical assistance; TBD = to be determined; TCR = technical assistance completion report; U = unsuccessful

^a Project numbers in italics denote projects cofinanced either by ADB or other partners.

^b The TA approval date and the expected completion date were updated on 31 March 2019 with information from the ADB Database.

^c Additional funding before ADB project approval for TA 6328-REG.

^d Additional funding before ADB project approval for TA 6324-REG.

^e Additional funding approval for TA 6390-REG.

^f Additional funding approval for TA 6310-REG.

^g Additional funding approval for TA 6409-REG.

^h Following its realignment in April 2019, the Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO) ceased to exist. The administration of the PRC Fund was transferred to a new Partner Funds Division (SDPF) under SDCC.

ⁱ Additional funding approval for TA 6502-REG.

^j Includes partial cancellation of \$100,000 made on 4 July 2014.

^k This project was cancelled in 23 July 2019.

^l Funding allocation was returned to the Fund pool as the 6-month period for ADB approval after MOF PRC approval under Fund Implementation Guidelines (Section 6) had elapsed for this project, and no request was made for extension of ADB approval after that.

^m Following the realignment of the Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO) in April 2019, OCO ceased to exist. The administration of PRC Fund was transferred to a new Partner Funds Division (SDPF) under SDCC.

ⁿ Additional funding approval for TA 8392-REG.

^o Additional funding approval for TA 8430-REG.

^p The 6-month period for approval under Fund Implementation Guidelines (Section 6) has elapsed.

^q Additional funding approval for TA 8301-REG.

^r Approved by PRC MOF in March 2019.

^s Excludes the \$1,000,000 provided to the ADB Institute.

Source: ADB database.

People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund Annual Report 2018

This publication provides an overview of the People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund (PRC Fund), including its background and rationale, objectives, operating principles and arrangements, and achievements during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2018. It contains general information about the project technical assistance and grants supported by the PRC Fund, and gives details about their operational performance in 2018. The PRC Fund was established in March 2005 to support poverty reduction, regional cooperation, and knowledge sharing among developing member countries of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). It is administered by ADB.

About the Asian Development Bank

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members—49 from the region. Its main instruments for helping its developing member countries are policy dialogue, loans, equity investments, guarantees, grants, and technical assistance.