



Country Operations Business Plan

November 2020

Maldives
2021–2023

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Asian Development Bank

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 20 October 2020)

Currency unit	–	Rufiyaa (Rf)
Rf1.00	=	\$0.06480
\$1.00	=	Rf15.43

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
ADF	–	Asian Development Fund
COBP	–	country operations business plan
COL	–	concessional ordinary capital resources lending
COVID-19	–	coronavirus disease
CPS	–	country partnership strategy
OCR	–	ordinary capital resources
TA	–	technical assistance

NOTES

- (i) The fiscal year (FY) of the Government of Maldives ends on 31 December, e.g., FY2020 ends on 31 December 2020.
- (ii) In this report, “\$” refers to United States dollars.

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I. CONSISTENCY OF BUSINESS PLAN WITH COUNTRY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

1. This country operations business plan (COBP) 2021–2023 is the first COBP of the country partnership strategy (CPS), 2020–2024 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) with the Government of Maldives.¹ The lending assistance program for 2021–2023 is in line with the following strategic objectives of the CPS, 2020–2024: (i) improve the quality of life of island communities while ensuring environmental sustainability; (ii) strengthen competitiveness and diversify the economic base; and (iii) enhance public sector efficiency and fiscal sustainability. The CPS and the COBP will contribute to the government’s Strategic Action Plan 2019–2023, which was launched in October 2019 as the central policy framework and planning document of Maldives for 2019–2023 covering five priority areas such as the blue economy, a caring state, dignified families, quality of island life, and good governance.² ADB will continue building on its comparative advantage to ensure a resilient and sustainable island life for all Maldivians by focusing support on the three interlinked strategic CPS objectives.

2. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is expected to adversely affect the country’s economic performance in 2020, in particular because of the impact of the worldwide travel restrictions on the tourism sector. Negative impacts, although possibly less severe, may spill over to 2021. ADB responded quickly by providing emergency assistance to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on the economy and society.³ Continued support to Maldives to cushion the impacts of COVID-19 will gradually shift to operations addressing structural constraints such as macroeconomic imbalances, the weak business environment, the stunted private sector, infrastructure development, and government inefficiency and weak institutional capacity through project investment, gender equality, and social sector development.

3. The projects included in this COBP mainly support the following six (of a total of seven) operational priorities of ADB’s Strategy 2030: 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; strengthening governance and institutional capacity; and fostering regional cooperation and integration.⁴ The COBP will adopt an integrated, “One ADB” approach combining sovereign and nonsovereign financing and leveraging non-ADB resources and knowledge to deliver private sector development, key critical infrastructure, and improved public sector efficiency and services.

II. INDICATIVE RESOURCE PARAMETERS

4. Maldives, a group A developing member country, is eligible for Asian Development Fund (ADF) grants and concessional ordinary capital resources lending (COL). The indicative ADF grant and COL resource allocation for commitment for 2021–2023 is \$68.37 million. The final allocation will depend on available resources and the outcome of the country performance assessments. Cofinancing and funding from other sources, including the thematic pool of concessional resources under ADF-13, will be explored. The 2020 debt distress classification of

¹ ADB. 2020. *Country Partnership Strategy: Maldives, 2020–2024—A Resilient and Sustainable Island Life for All Maldivians*. Manila.

² Government of Maldives. 2019. *Strategic Action Plan 2019–2023*. Malé.

³ ADB provided support to Maldives for COVID-19 related health measures, which includes (i) a \$1,500,000 grant from the Asia Pacific Disaster Response Fund (APDRF); and (ii) a \$798,000 grant from ADB. [Regional Support to Address the Outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 and Potential Outbreaks of Other Communicable Diseases](#) to procure medical supplies and personal protective equipment. In addition, a \$25.0 million loan and \$25.0 million grant in support for [ADB. Maldives: COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support Program](#) were approved by the Board on 25 June 2020.

⁴ ADB. 2018. *Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific*. Manila.

Maldives was assessed to be at *high* risk of debt distress.⁵ Following the ADF grants framework, the country is to receive 100% of its country allocation in grants in 2021.⁶

5. The lending and nonlending programs for 2021–2023 (Appendix 3) will support development outcomes in gender, health and education, energy, industry and trade, and public sector management. The total lending program for 2021–2023 is \$106.16 million, while the nonlending program totals \$7.50 million.⁷ The assistance program for both lending and nonlending products for the current year is in Appendix 4. The current COVID-19 pandemic may affect the processing and approval of the 2020–2021 program as planned. Nonetheless, ADB will maximize the use of transaction technical assistance to ensure the quality and readiness of proposed operations within the targeted timelines. ADB will support Maldives' long-term resilience to the damages of infectious diseases through a focus on three areas. First, ADB will help strengthen Maldives medical capacity by developing health sector professionals. Second, ADB will promote private sector development in various areas, and help enable economic diversification by enhancing the business environment. Third, ADB will continue to support the government in improving public sector efficiency, enhancing debt sustainability, and reducing deficit levels and creating fiscal space. Appendix 5 provides the list of indicative knowledge publications and events for 2020 and 2021.

6. To complement its sovereign operations, ADB will explore nonsovereign investments from its Private Sector Operations Department for bankable projects in the areas of financial intermediaries, infrastructure services such as telecommunications, and renewable energy in tourism sector. ADB will combine sovereign and non-sovereign operations to achieve the CPS strategic objectives and maximize impact. Investment in cleaner and renewable energy is a good example of an area for possible collaboration by sovereign and nonsovereign operations. In particular, the Greater Malé Energy Sector Project, pipelined for 2022, has good potential for combined sovereign and nonsovereign financing. Use of nonsovereign funding and the related criteria of commercial viability will promote greater discipline in investment decisions in areas such as small and medium-sized enterprise credit, sustainability of tourism facilities, energy, and infrastructure development. Obstacles to private sector operations (e.g., slow and cumbersome procedures for foreclosure and bankruptcy, and lack of a liquid swap market for the Maldivian rufiyaa that would allow risk mitigation for long-term funding) may be addressed through sovereign technical assistance, and access to the planned ADB Private Sector Window for Group A countries under ADF-13.

⁵ International Monetary Fund. 2020. Maldives: Request for Disbursement under the Rapid Credit Facility—Press Release; Staff Report; and Statement By the Executive Director For Maldives. *IMF Country Report* No. 20/133. Washington, DC.

⁶ The proportion of grants for the resource allocations in 2022–2023 will be determined by future annual debt distress classifications following the ADF grants framework.

⁷ The total lending program for 2021–2023 includes (i) possible \$22.79 million frontloading from indicative allocation for 2024, and (ii) \$15.0 million approved funding under the ADF-13 thematic set asides (\$5.0 million for Strengthening Gender-Inclusive Initiatives and \$10.0 million for Trade Facilitation Project).

COUNTRY ASSISTANCE RESULTS AREAS

Key Country Development Outcomes that ADB Contributes to	ADB		
	Key Areas of Assistance	Indicative Resources Available for Commitment in 2021–2023	Changes from Last COBP
1. Energy (Strategic objective 3: Improve quality of life of island communities while ensuring environmental sustainability)			
Investment in diversified and cleaner energy sources in the Greater Malé region Increased efficiency of utilities	Cleaner energy generation and transmission Energy sector development and institutional reform for improved and efficient energy utility services	Amount: \$21.62 million from ADF grants Share of COBP envelope: 20.37%	Not applicable
2. Health and Education (Strategic objective 2: Strengthen competitiveness and diversify the economic base)			
Enhanced national capacity in building health human resources	Health and education sector development	Amount: \$22.79 million from ADF grants Share of COBP envelope: 21.47%	Not applicable
3. Industry and Trade (Strategic objective 2: Strengthen competitiveness and diversify the economic base)			
Improved international trade environment by developing the national single window, infrastructure and systems to ensure high product quality and compliance with standards	Industry and trade sector development	Amount: \$15.0 million from ADF grants ^a Share of COBP envelope: 14.13%	Not applicable
4. Multisector (Cross-cutting objective: Accelerating progress in gender equality)			
Improved quality and access to child-care, elderly-care and gender-based violence services	ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development	Amount: \$6.75 million from ADF grants ^b Share of COBP envelope: 6.36%	Not applicable
5. Public Sector Management (Strategic objective 1: Enhance public sector efficiency and fiscal sustainability)			
Improved service standards and tariffs set by regulatory authorities Efficient income tax revenue collected close to revenue mobilization target Improved capacity of executing and implementing agencies, which translates into project performance	Institutional reforms of state owned enterprises Capacity building of public expenditure and fiscal management Improved public administration for efficient project implementation	Amount: \$40.00 million from ADF grants Share of COBP envelope: 37.68%	Not applicable

ADB = Asian Development Bank, ADF = Asian Development Fund, COBP = country operations business plan.

^a Includes a \$10.0 million funding approved under the ADF-13 thematic pool.

^b Includes a \$5.0 million funding approved under the ADF-13 thematic pool.

Source: ADB estimates.

LIST OF LINKED DOCUMENTS

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/COBP/?id=MLD-2021>

1. Portfolio at a Glance: Maldives

INDICATIVE ASSISTANCE PIPELINE

Table A3.1: Lending Products, 2021–2023

Project/Program Name ^a	Sector	Poverty Targeting	Operational Priority	Division	Year of TRTA/PRF	Cost (\$ million)						
						Total	ADB			Gov't	Co-finance	
							Regular OCR	COL	ADF Grants			Total
2021 Firm												
Strengthening Gender-Inclusive Initiatives ^b	TBD	TI-G	OP2	SAUW, SAOD		TBD	0.00	0.00	6.75 ^b	6.75	TBD	TBD
Public Finance Management Program Subprogram 1 (PBG) ^c	PSM	TI-G	OP6	SAPF		TBD	0.00	0.00	20.00	20.00	TBD	TBD
Total						TBD	0.00	0.00	26.75	26.75	TBD	TBD
2021 Standby												
Trade Facilitation Project	IND	TI-G	OP6, OP7	SARC	2021	TBD	0.00	0.00	15.00 ^d	15.00	TBD	TBD
Greater Malé Energy Sector Project	ENE	TI-G	OP3, OP4	SAEN	2020	TBD	0.00	0.00	21.62	21.62	TBD	TBD
Total						TBD	0.00	0.00	36.62	36.62	TBD	TBD
2022 Firm												
Trade Facilitation Project	IND	TI-G	OP6, OP7	SARC	2021	TBD	0.00	0.00	15.00 ^d	15.00	TBD	TBD
Greater Malé Energy Sector Project	ENE	TI-G	OP3, OP4	SAEN	2020	TBD	0.00	0.00	21.62	21.62	TBD	TBD
Total						TBD	0.00	0.00	36.62	36.62	TBD	TBD
2022 Standby												
Social Sector Development Project	HLT, EDU	TI-G	OP1, OP2	SAHS	2022	TBD	0.00	0.00	22.79	22.79	TBD	TBD
Public Finance Management Program Subprogram 2 (PBG)	PSM	TI-G	OP6	SAPF		TBD	0.00	0.00	20.00	20.00	TBD	TBD
Total						TBD	0.00	0.00	42.79	42.79	TBD	TBD

Project/Program Name ^a	Sector	Poverty Targeting	Operational Priority	Division	Year of TRTA/ PRF	Cost (\$ million)						
						Total	ADB			Gov't	Co-finance	
							Regular OCR	COL	ADF Grants			Total
2023 Firm												
Social Sector Development Project	HLT, EDU	TI-G	OP1, OP2	SAHS	2022	TBD	0.00	0.00	22.79	22.79	TBD	TBD
Public Finance Management Program Subprogram 2 (PBG)	PSM	TI-G	OP6	SAPF		TBD	0.00	0.00	20.00	20.00	TBD	TBD
Total						TBD	0.00	0.00	42.79	42.79	TBD	TBD

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ADF = Asian Development Fund; COL = concessional OCR lending; EDU = education; ENE = energy; Gov't = government; HLT = health; IND = industry and trade; OCR = ordinary capital resources; OP1 = addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities; OP2 = accelerating progress in gender equality; OP3 = tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability; OP4 = making cities more livable; OP6 = strengthening governance and institutional capacity; OP7 = fostering regional cooperation and integration; PBG = policy-based grant; PRF = project readiness financing; PSM = public sector management; SAEN = Energy Division, South Asia Department; SAHS = Human and Social Development Division, South Asia Department; SAOD = Office of the Director General, South Asia Department; SAPF = Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division, South Asia Department; SARC = Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, South Asia Department; SAUW = Urban Development and Water Division, South Asia Department; TBD = to be determined; TI-G = targeted intervention—geographic dimensions of inclusive growth; TRTA = transaction technical assistance.

^a Given the provisional nature of the indicative lending program, the composition of lending instruments in the actual loan delivery may change. The lending program includes ADF grants.

^b Includes a \$5.0 million funding approved under the ADF-13 thematic pool.

^c Processing of the program is subject to the conclusion of an agreement on coordinated assistance for budget assistance among relevant development partners.

^d Includes a \$10.0 million funding approved under the ADF-13 thematic pool.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

Table A3.2: Nonlending Products and Services, 2021–2023

Assistance Name	Sector	Division	Assistance Type	Sources of Funding				Total (\$'000)
				ADB		Others		
				Source	Amount (\$'000)	Source	Amount (\$'000)	
2021^a								
Supporting Fiscal Consolidation and Debt Sustainability Reforms	PSM	SAPF	TRTA	TASF	5,000.00		0.00	5,000.00
Preparing Trade Facilitation Project	IND	SARC	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Total					5,500.00			5,500.00
2022								
Social Sector Development Project	HLT, EDU	SAHS	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Capacity Building for Trade Facilitation Project (Attached)	IND	SARC	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Capacity Building Support for Liquefied Natural Gas Implementation	ENE	SAEN	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Total					1,500.00			1,500.00
2023								
Social Sector Development Project (Attached)	HLT, EDU	SAHS	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Total					500.00			500.00

ADB = Asian Development Bank; EDU = education; ENE = energy; HLT = health; IND = industry and trade; KSTA = knowledge and support technical assistance; OPPP = Office of Public-Private Partnership; PSM = public sector management; SAEN = Energy Division, South Asia Department; SAHS = Human and Social Development Division, South Asia Department; SAPF = Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division, South Asia Department; SARC = Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, South Asia Department; TASF = Technical Assistance Special Fund; TRTA = transaction technical assistance.

^a OPPP and SARD envisage processing a technical assistance project jointly in 2021.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CURRENT YEAR

Table A4.1: Lending Products, 2020

Project/Program Name ^a	Sector	Poverty Targeting	Priority Area	Division	Year of TRTA/ PRF	Cost (\$ million)						
						ADB					Gov't	Co-finance
						Total	Regular OCR	COL	ADF Grants	Total		
Firm												
Preparing Outer Islands for Sustainable Energy Development (Additional Financing)	ENE	TI-G	OP2, OP3	SAEN	2012	10.47	0.00	7.74	2.73	10.47	0.00	0.00
Greater Malé Waste-to-Energy Project	WUS	TI-G	OP3, OP4, OP6	SAUW	2017	151.13	0.00	38.21	35.18	73.39	27.74	50.00 ^b
COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support Program (CSF)	PSM	GI	OP1, OP2, OP6, OP7	SAPF		50.00 ^c	0.00	25.00	25.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Total						211.60	0.00	70.95	62.91	133.86	27.74	50.00

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ADF = Asian Development Fund; COL = concessional OCR lending; COVID-19 = coronavirus disease 2019; CSF = countercyclical support facility; ENE = energy; GI = general intervention; Gov't = government; OCR = ordinary capital resources; OP1 = addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities; OP2 = accelerating progress in gender equality; OP3 = tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability; OP4 = making cities more livable; OP6 = strengthening governance and institutional capacity; OP7 = fostering regional cooperation and integration; PRF = project readiness financing; PSM = public sector management; SAEN = Energy Division, South Asia Department; SAPF = Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division, South Asia Department; SAUW = Urban Development and Water Division, South Asia Department; TI-G = targeted intervention—geographic dimensions of inclusive growth; TRTA = transaction technical assistance; WUS = water and other urban infrastructure and services.

^a Given the provisional nature of the indicative lending program, the composition of lending instruments in the actual loan delivery may change. The lending program includes ADF grants.

^b Cofinancing for this project will be \$40.0 million loan from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and \$10.0 million grant from ADB administered Japan Fund for the Joint Crediting Mechanism.

^c Funding source comes from additional concessional resources for COVID-19 response.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

Table A4.2: Nonlending Products and Services, 2020

Assistance Name	Sector	Division	Assistance Type	Sources of Funding				Total (\$'000)
				ADB		Others		
				Source	Amount (\$'000)	Source	Amount (\$'000)	
Supporting Capacity for Sustainable Waste to Energy Service Delivery	WUS	SAUW	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Strengthening Capacity to Design and Implement Energy Sector Projects	ENE	SAEN	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Improved Implementation of the Government's COVID-19 Response Package	PSM	SARC, SAPF	TRTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Capacity Building for Country Programming and Portfolio Management (Supplementary Financing)	PSM	SARC	KSTA	TASF	500.00		0.00	500.00
Total					2,000.00		0.00	2,000.00

ADB = Asian Development Bank; COVID-19 = coronavirus disease 2019; ENE = energy; KSTA = knowledge and support technical assistance; PSM = public sector management; SAEN = Energy Division, South Asia Department; SAPF = Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division, South Asia Department; SARC = Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, South Asia Department; SAUW = Urban Development and Water Division, South Asia Department; TASF = Technical Assistance Special Fund; TRTA = transaction technical assistance; WUS = water and other urban infrastructure and services.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

INDICATIVE KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND EVENTS

Table A5.1: Knowledge Products and Events for 2021

Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Type	Department or Sector Group or Thematic Group	Funding Source
Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021	Economics; governance and public sector management; capacity development	Publication and documentation: Flagship study	ERCD	TA and administrative core budget (staff)
Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021 (main book)	Economics; governance and public sector management; capacity development	Publication and documentation: Flagship study	ERCD	TA 9220
Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021 Special Supplement on Measuring the Digital Economy	Economics; governance and public sector management; capacity development	Publication and documentation: Flagship study	ERCD	TA 9220
Technical Report on the Development of Tourism Satellite Accounts and Tourism Value Chains	Economics; governance and public sector management; capacity development	Publication and documentation: Technical study	ERCD (with IsDB)	TA 9920
Global Value Chain Participation Report	Economics; governance and public sector management; capacity development	Publication and documentation: Technical study	ERCD (with IsDB)	TA 9646
Basic Statistics 2021	Economics; governance and public sector management	Publication and documentation: Awareness raising material	ERCD	TA 9220
Asian Development Outlook 2021	Economics; public sector management	Publication and documentation: Flagship study	ERCD	TBD

Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Type	Department or Sector Group or Thematic Group	Funding Source
Toward Inclusive Sanitation in South Asia: Status, Best Practices and Lessons Learned	Urban development	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TBD
2021 Climate Mitigation Finance: Energy Project Summaries	Energy; climate change	Publication and documentation Flagship study	SDCC	TA (TBD)
Social Protection Indicator Country Report	Social protection	Publication and documentation	SDCC	TA 9534
Forum on Governance and Institutions	Governance and public sector management	Event organization	SDCC	TA (TBD)
Digital Development Forum 2021	Information and communication technology	Flagship event	SDCC	TA (TBD)
16th Asia Clean Energy Forum	Energy; climate change; environment; finance	Flagship event	SDCC	TA (TBD), trust fund, initiative
Total number of publications = 10				
Total number of events = 3				

ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, IsDB = Islamic Development Bank, SARD = South Asia Department, SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, TA = technical assistance, TBD = to be determined.
Source: Asian Development Bank.

Table A5.2: Additional Knowledge Products and Events Delivered in 2020

Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Type	Department or Sector Group or Thematic Group	Funding Source
2017 International Comparison Program for Asia and the Pacific: Purchasing Power Parities and Real Expenditures—A Summary Report	Economics; public sector management; capacity development	Publication and documentation: Technical study	ERCD	TA 9238
Basic Statistics 2020	Economics; public sector management	Publication and documentation: Awareness raising material	ERCD	TA 9659
Future of Regional Integration in Asia and the Pacific	Economics; regional cooperation and integration; finance; industry and trade	Publication and documentation: Technical study	ERCD	TA 9763
Maldives Multihazard Risk Atlas - Vol. 1 (Geography)	Environment sustainability	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TA 9700
Maldives Multihazard Risk Atlas - Vol. 2 (Climate and Geophysical Hazards)	Environment sustainability	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TA 9700
Maldives Multihazard Risk Atlas - Vol. 3 (Economy and Demographics)	Environment sustainability	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TA 9700
Maldives Multihazard Risk Atlas - Vol. 4 (Biodiversity)	Environment sustainability	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TA 9700
Maldives Multihazard Risk Atlas - Vol. 5 (Summary)	Environment sustainability	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TA 9700
Road Map for the Low Carbon Development for Maldives	Energy	Publication and documentation: Working paper	SARD	TA 9584

Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Type	Department or Sector Group or Thematic Group	Funding Source
Deploying Renewable Hybrid Minigrids and Advanced Energy Storage in Outer Islands of Maldives	Energy	Publication and documentation: Working paper	SARD	Grant 0429 (JFJCM)
Maldives Macroeconomic Forecasting	Economics	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TA 9515
SASEC Operational Plan 2016–2025 Update	Regional cooperation and integration	Publication and documentation: Special report	SARD	TA 9231
Blockchain Scoping Study	Information and technology	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SARD	TA 9739
A Comparative Analysis of Tax Administration in Asia and the Pacific 2020	Economics; governance and public sector management	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SDCC	DRMTF
Maldives Governance Risk Assessment	Governance and public sector management	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SDCC	TA 9061
Technical Study on Innovative Practices in Education and Training for the 5th, 6th, and 7th International Skills Forum	Education	Publication and documentation: Flagship study	SDCC	TA (TBD)
Climate Risk Country Profile - Maldives (joint publication with World Bank, for tentative delivery in Q4 2020)	Climate change	Publication and documentation: Technical study	SDCC	TA 9414
Regional Conference and Workshop on Tourism Value Chain	Industry and trade	Event organization	ERCD	TA 9646
Second Meeting of Heads of National Implementing Agencies: Presentation of 2017 International Comparison Program for Regional Results	Capacity development	Event organization	ERCD	TA 9238

Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Type	Department or Sector Group or Thematic Group	Funding Source
2020 International Comparison Program for Asia and the Pacific Inception Meeting	Capacity development	Event organization	ERCD	TA 9238
Regional Thematic Conference on “Managing a statistical organization in times of change”	Capacity development	Event organization	ERCD	TA 9356
International Comparison Program for Asia and the Pacific 2020 – Regional Training Workshop	Capacity development	Event organization	ERCD	TA 9898
Sub-regional Conference on Inclusive Urban Solutions in South Asia	Gender, equitable cities	Event organization	SARD	TA 8311
Total number of publications = 17				
Total number of events = 6				

DRMTF = Domestic Resource Mobilization Trust Fund, ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, JFJCM = Japan Fund for the Joint Crediting Mechanism, Q = quarter, SARD = South Asia Department, SASEC = South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation, SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, TA = technical assistance, TBD = to be determined, Vol. = volume.
Source: Asian Development Bank.

Table A5.3: Innovation, Advanced Technology, and Pilot Initiatives to be Implemented in 2021

Item	Nature	Project Number	Sector or Theme	Division
Use of waste-to-energy for municipal solid waste treatment	TCH	51077-003	WUS	SAUW

Total number of innovation, advanced technology, and pilot initiatives = 1

SAUW = Urban Development and Water Division, South Asia Department, TCH = advanced technology, WUS = water and other urban infrastructure and services.
Source: Asian Development Bank.