ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2022

PART I: HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 2022
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THE PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT

Sustainability lies at the core of the development agenda of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and its Strategy 2030. Our project investments, technical assistance, and day-to-day operations continued to focus on promoting sustainability across Asia and the Pacific amid the unprecedented impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and other recent challenges.

This ninth ADB Sustainability Report summarizes ADB’s support to our developing member countries (DMCs) and our staff through 2020 and 2021. The report also details how we have adapted our operational and organizational policies during this period.

The two parts of this report—the Highlights and accompanying Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Content Index—describe the economic, social, and environmental impacts of ADB operations and corporate activities. Project stories and noteworthy sustainability initiatives included in the report provide important context for these developments.

As would be expected for this reporting period, ADB focused its lending, assistance, and knowledge services on pandemic response and recovery. This included:

- a $20 billion package announced in April 2020 to help our DMCs mitigate the severe macroeconomic and health impacts of COVID-19;
- the $9 billion Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility announced in December 2020 that supported DMCs as they procured and delivered safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines; and
- $33 billion in total commitments to COVID-19 assistance as of August 2022.

We also focused on building knowledge and technical capacity within our ranks and across our DMCs. In order to provide effective and continuous support during the pandemic, we transitioned swiftly to implementing our projects and technical assistance online.

ADB prioritized the well-being of its staff during the pandemic. We enhanced health coverage and medical support, and we introduced flexible work and leave arrangements. Our Pandemic Crisis Management Team worked around the clock to ensure staff well-being and preparedness. Over 5,000 vaccine doses were administered to personnel from ADB’s own vaccination program.

As the climate bank for Asia and the Pacific, we are contributing to an environmentally sustainable future for the region. We raised our 2019–2030 climate finance ambition to $100 billion and committed to align 100% of ADB’s sovereign and nonsovereign operations with the goals of the Paris Agreement by 2025. We also launched ADB’s new Energy Policy, which locks in our commitment to refrain from funding new coal-fired power production. We introduced an Energy Transition Mechanism that will leverage market-based approaches to accelerate the transition to clean energy in Asia and the Pacific.

ADB also supported the growth of innovative sustainable finance mechanisms. We issued $5 billion in thematic bonds, including $1.6 billion in green bonds and $2.5 billion in gender bonds. We also issued our first blue bonds with a groundbreaking, dual-tranche issuance totaling $300 million. These initiatives will de-risk urgently needed investments that are critical to addressing climate change.
Together with other multilateral development banks, ADB signed a high-level joint statement affirming our commitment to mainstreaming nature into our policies, investments, and knowledge services. This joint statement is a key milestone in the global effort to define and track nature-positive finance.

I am pleased to note that in 2021, 100% of ADB projects included gender elements, up from 89% for 2018-2020. In addition, 37.7% of international staff were female in 2020 and 37.9% in 2021, which puts us close to meeting our gender target of having 40% female international staff by 2024.

We are currently updating ADB’s 2009 Safeguard Policy Statement to ensure that the projects we support promote good practices and fully address risks to people and the environment. This will address gaps in our existing policies including labor and working conditions, climate change, biodiversity, gender equality, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and risks of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, amongst others. Begun in 2020 for completion in 2023, the statement will strengthen stakeholder engagement, implementation, and oversight. It will provide greater clarity on applying safeguards for different lending modalities and for fragile and conflict-affected situations and small island developing states.

At ADB’s headquarters, waste production, water and energy use, and overall emissions were significantly reduced as most personnel worked from home. Global travel during the pandemic years contributed to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of more than 80%. Going forward, ADB needs to find ways to travel smarter and reduce our carbon footprint as we resume normal business operations.

I am proud of the many ways ADB has adapted, learned, and innovated during a challenging period for the region. The path ahead remains uncertain as the finances of DMC governments are stretched further by inflation, higher energy and commodity prices, and looming food insecurity. But I am confident that we can rise to the challenges ahead as we promote a green, inclusive, and resilient recovery in Asia and the Pacific.
Preparation of the Sustainability Report was overseen by Bruno Carrasco, director general, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC); and Lakshmi Menon, director general, Corporate Services Department; and led by Qingfeng Zhang, chief of the Rural Development and Food Security (Agriculture) Thematic Group concurrently officer-in-charge of the Environment Thematic Group.

Preparation and production of this summary report was managed by Duncan Lang, senior environment specialist, SDCC; with core support from Marie Antoinette Virtucio, Monelle Capistrano (consultant), Edith Creus (consultant), Cristina R. Velez (consultant), Rocilyn Locsin Laccay (consultant), Monina Gamboa (consultant), Maria Theresa Mercado (consultant), Christopher Darius M. Tabungar, as well as Phil Hughes (consultant), who provided technical guidance.

In addition, essential support was also provided by Erwin R. Casaclang, senior workplace management officer Corporate Services Department; and Athena Ocampo, associate institutional and operations coordination officer and Diane de Guzman, associate human resource analyst, Budget, People, and Management Systems Department; and Takako Morita, principal counsel and Henry Cornwell, counsel, Office of the General Counsel.

The following focal points provided essential information and advice:


We also gratefully received assistance from many people across ADB: Robert Alcala, Rodel Bautista, Bruce Dunn, Haidy Seang Ear–Dupuy, Elaine Thomas, Michelle Tumilba, and Peter Waa.
ABBREVIATIONS

ADB  Asian Development Bank
ADF  Asian Development Fund
AML/CFT Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism
ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CAREC Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
DMC developing member country
E2HSMS Energy, Environment, Health, and Safety Management System
EDGE Economic Dividends for Gender Equality
GBV gender-based violence
GHG greenhouse gas
GMS Greater Mekong Subregion
GRI Global Reporting Initiative
ISO International Organization for Standardization
Lao PDR Lao People’s Democratic Republic
LEED Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
LPG liquefied petroleum gas
LPR law and policy reform
MDB multilateral development bank
NDC nationally determined contribution
OHSAS Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series
OP operational priority
PRC People’s Republic of China
SDG Sustainable Development Goal
SOE state-owned enterprise
SPADE Spatial Data Analysis Explorer
SPS Safeguard Policy Statement
TA technical assistance
I. SUSTAINABILITY HIGHLIGHTS, 2020–2021

RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

$29.8 billion committed across five main types of COVID-19 Operations:

1. $16.6 billion for providing development financing, addressing economic impacts, and ensuring debt sustainability

2. $4.1 billion for expanding safe and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines under the $9 billion Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility or APVAX

3. 6.2 billion for supporting the private sector to create jobs and rebuild incomes

4. $2.8 billion for education, health, and social protection to enhance resilience under future pandemics

5. $167.6 million for targeted COVID-19 knowledge solutions for developing member countries

ADB provided:

- enhanced health and medical support for staff
- extra and more flexible leave allowances to support work–life balance
- awareness-raising activities about well-being resources and medical services available
- information technology (IT) equipment and support to facilitate remote work arrangements

$665 million raised for the ASEAN Green Recovery Platform to mobilize an additional $7 billion for low-carbon and climate-resilient green infrastructure projects

ADB HEADQUARTERS

ADB’s overall Energy, Environment, Health, and Safety Management System (E2HSMS) was recertified to meet International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001, ISO 45001, and ISO 50001 requirements and had its relevant administrative procedures updated to further improve ADB headquarters facilities and operations

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC’S CLIMATE BANK

$9.785 billion in combined climate change financing for 2020 and 2021 from ADB resources and external resources

- $7.571 billion for mitigation
- $2.214 billion for adaptation

In 2021, ADB raised its climate finance ambition to $100 billion for the period 2019–2030, up from the $80 billion target in Strategy 2030, encompassing

- $66 billion for mitigation
- $34 billion for adaptation

By July 2023

100% of new sovereign operations and 85% of private sector operations must fully align with goals of the Paris Agreement

By July 2025

At least 75% of ADB’s projects must feature climate adaptation and/or mitigation components

Along with other multilateral development banks, signed a joint nature statement—Nature, People, and Planet—and pledged to mainstream nature into ADB’s policies, analysis, assessments, advice, investments, and operations by 2025.
Established Revised Disaster and Emergency Assistance Policy and Revised Emergency Assistance Loan Policy to enhance strategic guidance for ADB’s assistance for disasters and emergencies.

Approved New ADB Energy Policy to Support Energy Access and Low-Carbon Transition

Under new policy ADB will:

- **NOT finance** production of or trade in radioactive materials, including nuclear reactors and components thereof.
- **NOT support** coal mining, processing, and transportation or new coal-fired power generation.

**Launched Energy Transition Mechanism (ETM)** Pilot with the governments of Indonesia and the Philippines: private–public finance vehicle that aims to accelerate the retirement of coal-fired power plants, while also jumpstarting the growth of renewable energy capacity.

Adopted the Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations and Small Island Developing States Approach (FSA) to address the transient challenges of FCAS and the more permanent vulnerabilities of SIDS.

Launched Community Resilience Partnership Program to strengthen climate resilience for local communities, including for women and girls, by scaling-up climate adaptation measures in Asia and the Pacific.

Gender mainstreaming guided by the new Operational Plan for Operational Priority 2: Accelerating Progress in Gender Equality, 2019–2024 (Gender OP/OP2).

**Blue Bonds.** ADB is the first bank to create a blue bond framework and in 2021 issued its first blue bond that will finance investments that enhance and protect ocean health.

To support

- ecosystem restoration
- reduced coastal pollution
- marine renewable energy
- sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- circular economy promotion
- green ports and shipping

**Total outstanding green bonds at end-2021**

- **$8.8 billion**

**Total outstanding blue bonds at end-2021**

- **$302 million**

**Outstanding thematic bonds at end-2021 totaled**

- **$3.9 billion**
  - education: $161 million
  - water: $262 million
  - gender: $2.9 billion
  - health: $605 million
## II. SELECTED OUTCOMES FROM ADB OPERATIONS

### Table 1: Selected Outcomes for Completed Sovereign Operations in 2020 and 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Effectiveness Review Indicator</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area with reduced flood risk (hectares)</td>
<td>244,000</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution control-enhancing infrastructure assets established or improved (number)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total annual greenhouse gas emissions reduction (tCO₂e/year)</td>
<td>19,325,000</td>
<td>17,807,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with strengthened climate and disaster resilience (number)</td>
<td>561,000</td>
<td>763,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrestrial, coastal, and marine areas conserved, restored, and/or enhanced (hectares)</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td>495,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measures on gender equality supported in implementation (number)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[\text{tCO}_2\text{e} = \text{ton of carbon dioxide equivalent.}\]


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Solar panels at the Burgos Wind and Solar Farm in Burgos, Ilocos Norte in the Philippines. Solar panels gathering sun power and turbines harvesting wind power.
To align with Strategy 2030 and its seven operational priorities, ADB’s Private Sector Operations Department seeks to prioritize frontier and underserved markets, including countries in fragile and conflict-affected situations, and small island developing states. It is also focused on contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by expanding its work into newer and challenging sectors, including agribusiness, education, health, environmental infrastructure, transport, and information and communication technology to benefit marginalized groups including women, reduce inequality, and support greater financial inclusion for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Table 2: Measuring ADB Private Sector Operations’ Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No Poverty</strong></td>
<td>MSME beneficiaries (female)</td>
<td>56.2 million</td>
<td>39.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zero Hunger</strong></td>
<td>Farmers reached</td>
<td>9.9 million</td>
<td>2.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good Health and Well-being</strong></td>
<td>Patients served</td>
<td>913,528</td>
<td>6,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Antiviral medications distributed</td>
<td>283.8 million</td>
<td>372.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quality Education</strong></td>
<td>Students reached</td>
<td>9.2 million</td>
<td>4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decent Work and Economic Growth</strong></td>
<td>Jobs added (female)</td>
<td>73,718</td>
<td>17,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MSME beneficiaries (female)</td>
<td>31.2 million</td>
<td>37.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women trained</td>
<td>515,936</td>
<td>319,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reduced Inequalities</strong></td>
<td>Potable water produced</td>
<td>372.8 million m³</td>
<td>484.3 million m³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wastewater treated</td>
<td>513,070 million m³</td>
<td>1.2 million m³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clean Water and Sanitation</strong></td>
<td>Workers employed</td>
<td>371,800</td>
<td>305,093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>People trained</td>
<td>682,117</td>
<td>366,093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Affordable and Reliable Energy</strong></td>
<td>Houses built</td>
<td>280,709</td>
<td>313,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sustainable Cities</strong></td>
<td>GHG emissions reduced</td>
<td>22.9 million tCO₂e</td>
<td>14.1 million tCO₂e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Responsible Consumption and Waste</strong></td>
<td>Government revenues</td>
<td>$821 million</td>
<td>$1,660 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Export sales</td>
<td>$7.1 million</td>
<td>$121 million</td>
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GHG = greenhouse gas, m³ = cubic meter, MSMEs = micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, tCO₂e = ton of carbon dioxide equivalent. Note: Results are based on reports received as of 31 March 2022. Source: Private Sector Operations Department in 2021: Report on Development Effectiveness.
Under the *seven operational priorities (OPs)* of its *Strategy 2030*, ADB provided a broad range of integrated solutions to mitigate the direct impacts of the pandemic and accelerate the transition toward a green, resilient, and inclusive recovery.

**III. IMPLEMENTING STRATEGY 2030**

**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**

**OP5: Promoting rural development and food security**

**OP6: Strengthening governance and institutional capacity**

**OP7: Fostering regional cooperation and integration**

ADB is mobilizing public and private finance, strengthening knowledge services, and convening effective partnerships to proactively respond to the changing needs of the Asia and Pacific region.

In the following pages, we highlight some key ADB initiatives that embody and illustrate our operational priorities and differentiated approaches to address diverse client needs.

These projects and long-term programmatic initiatives are designed to deliver integrated yet customized solutions across a range of sectors and themes.

**HOW ADB ADDS VALUE**

**FINANCE**
Providing own financing while also mobilizing funds from other sources

**KNOWLEDGE**
Focusing on practical value that fits local conditions, identifies lessons, and replicates good practices

**PARTNERSHIPS**
Promoting dialogue and collaboration among diverse partners and stakeholders

**PRINCIPLES THAT GUIDE US**

**USING A COUNTRY-FOCUSED APPROACH**
Providing customized solutions specific to the needs and challenges of each developing member country (DMC)

**PROMOTING THE USE OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY**
Proactively seeking ways to use advanced technologies across operations and providing capacity building support to DMCs

**DELIVERING INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS**
Combining expertise across a range of sectors and themes, and through a mix of public and private sector operations
Shorebirds in mangroves forest. ADB’s Regional Flyway initiative aims to mobilize $3 billion to preserve globally significant wetlands and the ecosystem services, benefits, and livelihoods they provide to hundreds of millions of people and millions of migratory birds (photo by Srikanth Manepuri/Ocean Image Bank).

Village boys by a water reservoir in Doti District, Nepal. The Building Climate Resilience of Watersheds in Mountain Eco-Regions is improving water management and water supply for homes and agriculture in about 100 communities in Nepal.

Student fills a water bottle from her school’s hand pump. The West Bengal Drinking Water Sector Improvement Project addresses the reliance on groundwater that puts West Bengal’s rural population at risk from arsenic and fluoride contamination.

Cultivation improved with embankment. An embankment created under the Bangladesh: Irrigation Management Improvement Project prevented saltwater from entering the land, benefiting Masud Alam, shown here with his son.

Climate resilience and livelihoods for smallholder farmers. This Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan supports ECOM Agroindustrial Corp to procure coffee from smallholder farmers, along with advance payments and extension services to provide farmers’ liquidity.

Shahabuddin, a person with disability, uses the Zu Peshawar Bus Rapid Transit system. ADB is helping provide safe, modern, urban, and universally accessible transport for a cleaner and healthier environment in Peshawar, Pakistan.

Coffee farmer in South Sumatra, Indonesia. Through the Rantau Dedap Geothermal Power Project, ADB is scaling-up private sector-led infrastructure development and clean energy investments in Asia and the Pacific.

Philippines frontliner administers COVID-19 vaccine. In December 2020, ADB launched the $9 billion Asia-Pacific Vaccine Access Facility (APVAX) with partners, to ensure safe access to affordable vaccines.

Training facilitators from Vena Energy, Mataram University, Indonesia. The Eastern Indonesia Renewable Energy project is helping women of Jeger Buana Lombok expand their market for their cassava chips business.

Paddle boarders over healthy coral reef at sunset. In 2021, ADB issued its first Blue Bonds worth a total of $300 million, to finance and catalyze investments in ocean health (photo by Grant Thomas/Ocean Image Bank).

Elementary schoolgirl in Pakistan. The Pakistan: Access to Clean Energy Investment Program is helping install clean energy sources and improve access to electricity for people in Punjab, Pakistan.

Upgraded water and sanitation in Banteay Meanchey, Cambodia. This ADB project is improving market accessibility, health, and hygiene. It has rehabilitated and constructed wells, community ponds, and water supply systems, benefiting 370,000 rural residents in six provinces in Cambodia.

Village boys by a water reservoir in Doti District, Nepal. The Building Climate Resilience of Watersheds in Mountain Eco-Regions is improving water management and water supply for homes and agriculture in about 100 communities in Nepal.

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Elementary schoolgirl in Pakistan. The Pakistan: Access to Clean Energy Investment Program is helping install clean energy sources and improve access to electricity for people in Punjab, Pakistan.

Upgraded water and sanitation in Banteay Meanchey, Cambodia. This ADB project is improving market accessibility, health, and hygiene. It has rehabilitated and constructed wells, community ponds, and water supply systems, benefiting 370,000 rural residents in six provinces in Cambodia.
Operational Priority 1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities

Human development and social inclusion, quality jobs, education and training, better health, social protection

### Strategic Operational Priorities

1. **Human capital and social protection enhanced for all**

2. **Quality jobs generated**

3. **Opportunities for the most vulnerable increased**

### Operational Approaches

- Universal health coverage
- Learning for all
- Social protection for all
- Inclusive business
- AI and big data analytics
- Youth initiatives
- Reach vulnerable people
- Digital solutions
- Infrastructure with skills development

Cross-sector knowledge platforms on emerging areas

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**Regional: Supporting Livelihoods and Boosting Climate Resilience of Smallholder Farmers**

Climate change and the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic are intensifying pressures on smallholder farmers in India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea (PNG), and Viet Nam. With their already-low incomes further reduced by the pandemic, investing in urgently needed climate-resilient measures is increasingly challenging. An Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan is supporting ECOM Agroindustrial Corp operations to finance coffee procured from nearly 15,300 of these smallholder farmers. It will fund advances and extension services to provide farmers with liquidity, and to reduce the pandemic’s impacts on agricultural value chains. A complementary technical assistance grant will also build capacity around climate-smart coffee farming best practices, and financial literacy in Indonesia and PNG.

**Loan:** $60 million

**Technical Assistance:** $630,000

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**Regional: Using Digital Technology to Improve National Health Financing in Asia and the Pacific**

ADB’s developing member countries strive to achieve universal health care (UHC) so their people—particularly the poor, the elderly, those with disabilities, women, and children—can access quality health services without incurring financial hardship. One critical aspect of UHC is a national health insurance system. This ADB technical assistance supports the development and adoption of digital national health insurance information systems in Armenia, Bangladesh, Mongolia, the Philippines, and Viet Nam. It includes project support to improve technical capacity to better determine costs of services, strengthen provider payment systems, and promote standardized care in hospitals to ensure quality of care, expand access, and reduce costs.

**Technical Assistance:** $2.5 million
Operational Priority 2: Accelerating progress in gender equality

Scaled-up support for gender equality; women’s economic empowerment; gender equality in human development, decision-making and leadership; reducing time poverty for women; strengthening women’s resilience to shocks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Operational Priorities</th>
<th>Operational Approaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Women’s economic empowerment increased</td>
<td>• Scale-up gender mainstreaming in operations across sectors and themes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Gender equality in human development enhanced</td>
<td>• Integrate Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5’s “transformative” gender agenda, e.g., economic assets and resources for women, unpaid care and domestic work, digital technology and information and communication technology (ICT), and gender-based violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Gender equality in decision-making and leadership enhanced</td>
<td>• Expand gender mainstreaming in nonsovereign operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Women’s time poverty and drudgery reduced</td>
<td>• Tackle multiple gender inequalities through integrated solutions, e.g. livable cities program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Women’s resilience to external shocks strengthened</td>
<td>• Develop capacity of developing member countries and clients in tracking and achieving gender-related SDGs</td>
</tr>
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Cambodia: Challenging Gender Stereotypes in Rural Cambodia

Women and girls in rural Cambodia are typically responsible for a household’s water, sanitation, and hygiene. During the dry season, they walk farther to reach water sources. This increases their workload and imperils their personal safety when navigating slippery paths with heavy loads of water. This ADB project and its additional financing focused on improved community health and hygiene practices; rehabilitated and constructed new water facilities; and improved public and household sanitation. A grant from the Water Financing Partnership Facility enabled the testing of affordable and innovative on-site sanitation for floating and flood-prone villages in Tonle Sap Lake. The project carried out a comprehensive gender action plan to promote gender equity by increasing seats for women in decision-making bodies.

Loan: $36 million

Mongolia: Addressing and Preventing Domestic Violence in Mongolia during the COVID-19 Crisis

During the COVID-19 pandemic, girls in Mongolia spent more time online, giving rise to new forms of gender-based violence (GBV) such as cyberbullying, which were becoming prevalent. An ADB technical assistance project helped devise ways to protect girls when they are in cyberspace, using the same technologies and platforms to help them protect themselves and hold predators accountable. ADB organized a hackathon for Mongolians to brainstorm solutions to new forms of online GBV. Some apps help survivors gather evidence and file official complaints to send strong signals that the predators’ actions are criminal. With the Government of Mongolia and civil service organizations, ADB helps survivors report GBV and get the information and services they need to protect girls and families.

Technical Assistance: $400,000
Operational Priority 3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability

Low greenhouse gas emissions development, approach to building climate and disaster resilience, environmental sustainability, water–food–energy security nexus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Operational Priorities</th>
<th>Operational Approaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 Mitigation of climate change increased | • Clean energy  
   Green business and jobs |
| 2 Climate and disaster resilience built | • Sustainable transport and urban development  
   Clean air and water, waste management |
| 3 Environmental sustainability enhanced | • Climate-smart agriculture and sustainable land use  
   Physical (climate-proof), eco-based, financial, social, and institutional  
   • Water–food–energy security nexus  
   • Air and water pollution management  
   • Natural capital and healthy oceans  
   Environment governance |

**Regional: Scaling-Up the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Initiative**

The Regional Flyway Initiative (RFI) seeks to mobilize $3 billion in investment projects to protect, restore, and sustainably manage a vast regional network of natural wetlands along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF), that spans 22 countries. The large-scale regional program aims to preserve their globally significant biodiversity values and the ecosystem services, benefits, and livelihoods they provide to hundreds of millions of people over the long-term.

The RFI is being developed to identify wetland sites of international importance. When properly planned, implemented, and sustainably managed, RFI projects can deliver significant cross-cutting benefits for climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience—potentially contributing to nationally determined contributions (NDCs), biodiversity targets, and food security.

**Kyrgyz Republic: Managing and Preventing Landslide Risk**

Out of more than 4,500 landslide sites in the mountainous, landlocked Kyrgyz Republic, about 1,200 are active. About 550 settlements, housing 30,000 people, face immediate landslide risks. Climate change is expected to increase landslide frequency and risk because of earlier snowmelt, melting permafrost, and more intense precipitation. ADB’s first integrated preemptive landslide risk reduction project aims to safeguard rural communities in the Kyrgyz Republic. This innovative project will embed international best practices and advanced technologies for improved risk reduction and monitoring. It will combine engineering and nature-based solutions with community-based planning and capacity building for sustainable long-term landslide safety.

**Loan:** $11.5 million  
**Grant:** $23.5 million

**People’s Republic of China (PRC): Innovative Financing for Ecosystem Protection and Restoration**

Unprecedented economic growth in the PRC, typified by rapid infrastructure construction, mining, land reclamation, overhunting, and overfishing, have resulted in large-scale environmental degradation and biodiversity loss. To protect livelihoods and incomes that depend on natural resources, the value of ecosystems must be realized. Because valuation of ecosystems and natural capital in the PRC is still evolving, there is a lack of financing for ecosystem protection and restoration. ADB projects in Ningxia, Yunnan, Hunan, Zhejiang, and Shandong provinces are exploring market-oriented ways to value ecological products and services, along with innovative financing and participation mechanisms for ecosystem protection and restoration.

**Technical Assistance:** $600,000

**Technical Assistance:** $1 million

**Loan:** $11.5 million  
**Grant:** $23.5 million
Operational Priority 4: Making cities more livable
Integrated urban development solutions, funding for cities, inclusive and participatory urban planning, climate resilience, and disaster management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Operational Priorities</th>
<th>Operational Approaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Improve coverage, quality, efficiency, and reliability of services in urban areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Strengthen urban planning and financial sustainability of cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Improve urban environment, climate resilience, and disaster management of cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Regional: Recycling and Reducing Ocean Plastic Waste and Pollution

It is estimated that Asia accounts for more than 80% of all plastics released into the ocean. Globally, around half of polyethylene terephthalate plastic is recycled. In a circular economy, products and materials are redesigned, recovered, and recycled to divert plastic waste from landfills and oceans. The project will reduce the environmental impact of plastic and promote a circular economy by boosting the capacity of Indorama Ventures Public Company Limited’s plastic recycling plants in India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand. The loan is ADB’s first independently verified nonsovereign blue loan, following Blue Natural Capital Financing Facility’s Blue Bond Guidelines, with an assurance report from DNV GL. It is aligned with ADB’s Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies, which calls for ADB to expand its investments and technical assistance to $5 billion during 2019–2024.

Pakistan: Safe, Modern Urban Public Transport in Peshawar

Public transport options for people in Peshawar, including the estimated 40% living below the poverty line, had been limited to trucks and buses from the 1980s, expensive taxis, or walking. Commuting was especially intimidating for women, and with no step-free access, stations were unsuitable for the disabled and elderly. The new Zu Peshawar Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) that runs along a 27-kilometer corridor linking east to west across the city features 30 well-lit stations, with priority ticketing counters and 100% step-free universal accessibility for disabled people and the elderly. One hundred fifty-eight hybrid plug buses, with priority seating for women, the elderly, and disabled, carry up to 300,000 passengers a day. An integrated travel card can be used across the whole bus rapid BRT and bicycle sharing system. Urban regeneration along the BRT’s route has included façade-to-façade renewal, energy-efficient streetlights, quality footpaths, drainage systems, and dedicated cycling lanes.
Operational Priority 5: Promoting rural development and food security

Market connectivity and agricultural value chain linkages, agricultural productivity and food security, food safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Operational Priorities</th>
<th>Operational Approaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Rural development</strong></td>
<td>• Rural–urban connectivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Rural health and education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Rural economic hubs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Agricultural value chains</strong></td>
<td>• Modern agricultural value chains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Off-grid energy solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 Food security</strong></td>
<td>• Food safety and traceability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

India: Boosting Farm Incomes and Reducing Food Losses in the State of Maharashtra

Maharashtra contributes 12% of India’s total fruit production and 7% of the country’s total vegetable production. Despite ample opportunities for the growth of horticulture, most smallholder farmers still practice subsistence farming because of fragmented land ownership, insufficient capital to scale-up, and lack of direct access to emerging high-value markets. Women form a large part of the agricultural labor force and play a significant role in production and post-harvest processing. The project will support access to finance, capacity building, and horticulture value chain infrastructure development and benefit 200,000 farmers. The project will also support inclusive development through gender equality and social inclusion actions.

Loan: $100 million

Pakistan: Strengthening Food Security Post-COVID-19 and against Locust Attacks

Pakistan faces interlinked problems of food insecurity and rural poverty, an inefficient food system, price inflation, and climate change impacts. The country was sorely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and an unprecedented locust infestation. Through this technical assistance, ADB is supporting the Ministry of National Food Security and Research and four provincial agriculture departments in (i) adopting technologies and practices to manage the impacts of the pandemic, locust swarms, and climate change impacts on agriculture productivity and the value chain; (ii) disseminating these technologies and practices to government and rural communities; and (iii) assessing agriculture and food security institutions to recommend measures for building resilient and sustainable food security systems.

Technical Assistance: $1.3 million Cofinancing: $200,000

Cambodia: Enhancing the Competitiveness and Safety of Agricultural Value Chains

Despite its potential, Cambodia lacks capacity for value addition of agro-based products. Only a small fraction of the total agricultural output is processed within the country. To address this, the project aims to strengthen the value chains of selected agricultural commodities, such as mangoes and cashew nuts in Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Siem Reap, and Tboung Khmum provinces. The project (i) facilitates access to credit for agro-enterprises and agricultural cooperatives; (ii) promotes viable market linkages among agro-enterprises and agricultural cooperatives, and enhances food safety and quality; and (iii) improves farm-to-market connectivity. The project will benefit 230 agricultural cooperatives consisting of about 27,000 households and about 50 agribusinesses in the project areas.

Loan: $70 million Cofinancing: $33 million
**Operational Priority 6: Strengthening governance and institutional capacity**

Public management reforms and financial sustainability, service delivery, capacity, and standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Operational Priorities</th>
<th>Operational Approaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 Public management and financial stability enhanced | • Domestic resource mobilization  
• Public financial management, expenditure and fiscal policies, adequate fiscal space for service delivery  
• Support for private sector development  
• Macro-fiscal stability  
• Strengthened subnational governments capacity  
• State-owned enterprise reforms |
| 2 Governance and institutional capacity for service delivery improved | • Improved legal and judicial institutional capacity  
• Strengthened financial management and procurement systems  
• Anticorruption and integrity measures  
• Strong statistical institutions  
• Environmental and social safeguards  
• Differentiated approaches in fragile and conflict-affected situations |
| 3 Country systems and standards effectively utilized | |

**Indonesia: Disaster Resilience Improvement Program**

This ADB project supports reforms in disaster risk management and health services and helps manage the fiscal risks arising from future disasters triggered by natural hazards and pandemics. It complements the COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support (CARES) Program for Indonesia by strengthening the disaster resilience of Indonesia’s institutions and communities, and the Government of Indonesia’s response to pandemics through three reform areas: (i) policy and institutional arrangements for disaster risk management and health-related emergencies, including social protection; (ii) resilience of physical assets to disaster and climate risks; and (iii) disaster risk and pandemic response financing.

**Loan:** $500 million  
**Technical Assistance:** $1.23 million

**Regional: Gender-Responsive Judicial Systems**

Gender bias and stereotyping are prevalent in legal systems, leading to the denial of justice for survivors, and creating future barriers for women and girls’ access to justice. The technical assistance project is helping to address gender inequality by strengthening the capacity of judicial systems to respond more effectively to cases involving violence against women and girls and facilitating knowledge sharing on GBV and access to justice issues.

**Technical Assistance:** $1.23 million
## Operational Priority 7: Fostering regional cooperation and integration

Connectivity and competitiveness, regional public goods, cooperation in the finance sector, subregional initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Operational Priorities</th>
<th>Operational Approaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Greater and higher-quality connectivity between economies</td>
<td>• Multimodal transport infrastructure connectivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Global and regional trade and investment opportunities expanded</td>
<td>• Renewable energy and sustainable transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Regional public goods increased and diversified</td>
<td>• &quot;Soft&quot; infrastructure for implementation of trade and investment agreements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Regional: Green and Resilient Rural Recovery through Agri-Food System Transformation in the Asia and Pacific Region

The program will help DMCs support risk and vulnerability assessments to understand the impact of the pandemic on key agribusiness value chains and the development of appropriate policy and investment responses. Funds will be deployed to test climate-smart agriculture interventions and build new approaches to developing sustainable and inclusive agribusiness value chains. A linked technical assistance project will help develop the concept of a three-pillared Innovative Natural Capital Financing Facility (INCFF) consisting of a regional Natural Capital Lab, a Natural Capital Fund, and a Digital Marketplace Platform. The INCFF will catalyze climate-positive adaptation and mitigation investments and reduce the erosion of biodiversity while protecting rural livelihoods.

Technical Assistance: $4.1 million

### Regional: Promoting Gender Equality in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Region

Gender-based disparities persist in all Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) countries, particularly in economic empowerment and political representation. A regional approach to gender mainstreaming taken through the CAREC Gender Strategy 2030 can complement national actions and existing programs to support women’s empowerment in the region. The strategy identifies gender issues, strategic directions, and entry points for mainstreaming gender throughout CAREC’s operational clusters, with four objectives for women to (i) promote access to economic opportunities, (ii) contribute to social empowerment, (iii) support regional networks and policy reform for economic empowerment, and (iv) enhance access to information and communication technologies.

Technical Assistance: $1 million
IV. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

ADB will not finance projects that
- do not comply with its Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS);
- do not comply with the host country’s social and environmental laws and regulations, including laws implementing host country obligations under international law; and
- include activities on the prohibited investments list (as defined in Annex V of the SPS).

All ADB investment projects are screened and categorized on a sliding scale of A (highest risk) to C (lowest risk) based on the significance of potential impacts or risks, or categorized as FI “financial intermediary” (requiring a project-specific environmental and social management system to be established) at the project identification stage.

Three Key Safeguards

1. Environmental
   Environmental safeguards are triggered if a project is likely to have environmental and social impacts and risks, including in relation to biodiversity protection and sustainable natural resource management, pollution prevention and abatement, health and safety, and physical cultural resources.

2. Involuntary resettlement
   Involuntary resettlement safeguards focus on situations that involve either involuntary acquisition of land or involuntary restrictions on land use, resulting in physical or economic displacement.

3. Indigenous peoples
   Safeguards for indigenous peoples are triggered if a project directly or indirectly affects their dignity, human rights, livelihood systems, or culture; or affects the territories of natural or cultural resources they own, use, occupy, or claim as an ancestral domain or asset.


Figure 1: Safeguard Categories of Approved Projects in 2020 and 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safeguard Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involuntary resettlement</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous peoples</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Safeguard Implementation Challenges during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The pandemic brought challenges in preparing and administering ADB projects, including ensuring that projects continue to comply with requirements of ADB’s Safeguard Policy Statement for environment, involuntary resettlement, and indigenous peoples and that projects did not contribute to the spread of the disease or put workers in unsafe conditions. The key challenges were due to travel restrictions and health and safety concerns affecting: (i) public consultation and information disclosure, (ii) grievance redress mechanisms, (iii) field data collection, and (iv) review missions by ADB staff. Adaptive mechanisms, such as the use of online consultations and remote data collection, and/or adjustments of timelines of certain safeguards activities, were employed. A risk-based approach was applied to make decisions for on-going and new projects with a precautionary approach applied to any projects where due diligence could not be fully completed or community or occupational health and safety concerns remained.

Safeguard Policy Review and Update Launched in August 2020

The update will seek to modernize and enhance the current policy addressing key policy gaps and addressing emerging issues and risks, and vulnerabilities for affected people and the environment; adapt the policy for different financing approaches, including sovereign and nonsovereign financing; improve efficiency of safeguard business processes, seeking opportunities for streamlining and greater clarity on requirements for ADB and borrowers; increase convergence and harmonization with policies and system of other multilateral financial institutions and cofinanciers; and improve implementation outcomes from safeguards, with increased support for strengthening country systems and client capacities, and enhanced monitoring and oversight. The revised policy is expected to be submitted for Board approval in 2023. New or enhanced focus is being given to a range of issues, including labor and working conditions, climate change, biodiversity, stakeholder engagement, gender equality, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and risks of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment.

Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project in Bangladesh

Forty-one percent of the indigenous people of Bangladesh live in the Chittagong Hill Tracts area where land transportation was very challenging. The Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project ADB built new roads, culverts, and bridges that connected the community more effectively.
V. KNOWLEDGE SERVICES

ADB strives to be at the forefront of connecting knowledge with financing to better support its DMCs. The bank provides knowledge support and technical assistance in project design and implementation, promotes the transfer of technology and good practices, and facilitates the sharing of knowledge, skills, and expertise.

In 2020 and 2021, ADB devoted $167.6 million for targeted COVID-19 knowledge solutions for ADB DMCs. In-depth webinars, training, and workshops also focused on the circular economy, green infrastructure planning, air quality management, and other key focus areas. Some examples are featured in this section.

**Tackling Climate Change and Building Developing Member Country Resilience the One Health Way**

One Health is an approach to overcoming human, animal, plant, and ecological health challenges that start from a simple premise: all these are interconnected, and solutions demand communication, coordination, and collaboration across multiple sectors, disciplines, and levels of government.

One Health is concerned with the stewardship and protection of the natural environment, the grave threats posed by environmental degradation and climate change, and how actions for protecting human health and food supply can affect ecological conditions.

**Clean Air for Livable Cities: Knowledge Series**

This six-part knowledge series, launched on the first-ever International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies in September 2021, focused on the health and economic impacts of air pollution, solutions at national and city levels, and strategies to sustain clean air outcomes from COVID-19 lockdowns and to stimulate project investment ideas. This builds on awareness-raising over the years on the impacts of air pollution, research and development innovation, and tools such as the Better Air Quality workshops delivered in partnership with Clean Air Asia.

**The Modern Road Ecologist’s Toolbox**

In recent years, ADB has supported training for South Asia’s road engineers, and transport and forestry agency staff and officials around eco-sensitive infrastructure planning and design to protect biodiversity, maintain watershed integrity, and avoid deforestation. In 2021, the Modern Road Ecologist’s Toolbox workshop shared best practices in conducting Baseline Biodiversity Assessments, a critical part of mitigation planning of transportation infrastructure projects (roads and railways).

**Closing the Circle: Circular Economy Sprint Series and Promoting Green Businesses**

This five-part learning and training series introduced the concept of the circular plastics economy and 3R (reduce, reuse, recycle); communicated the benefits of applying circular economy principles to projects and programs; identified opportunities to mainstream circular economy in ADB operations; and upskilled ADB staff on steps to incorporate circular economy into programs and the early part of project preparation.

**ADB Sustainable Food Webinar Series**

The ADB Sustainable Food Webinar Series offered a platform for sharing knowledge, experience, solutions and best practices to help DMCs build sustainable and resilient food systems. A webinar on Policy Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic for Food Security in Asia and the Pacific discussed the challenges and policy responses to ensure food security in Asia and the Pacific amid pandemics through food systems transformation.
VI. ENHANCING HUMAN RESOURCES

In 2021, ADB approved its road map for Strengthening Disability-Inclusive Development, 2021-2025, which includes plans for strengthening disability inclusion standards in the ADB workplace, and in its policies and practices.

Women’s share of ADB international staff positions increased from 37.7% in 2020 to 37.9% in 2021, against a goal of 40% by 2024.

The ADB Management reports directly to the President, as set out in ADB’s organizational structure. The President heads the Management team, comprising a managing director general and six vice-presidents, who supervise the work of ADB’s operational, administrative, and knowledge departments.

Under the continued effects of COVID-19, all programs and learning events in 2021 were delivered virtually.
Highlights included:

- More diverse online learning opportunities through a broader library of bespoke e-learning, and launch of LinkedIn Learning as ADB’s new e-learning resource that provides staff on-demand access to over 16,000 learning courses.

- Increased investment in coaching, resulting in 187 coaching sessions delivered through the Executive Coaching program and the Focus Coaching program for international staff.

- 235 staff completed one of ADB’s three flagship leadership development programs—Thrive, Engage, and Transform. In 2021, these programs won two Brandon Hall International Awards for excellence—a gold award for Best Unique or Innovative Leadership Program, and a silver award for Best Advance in Leadership Development.

- Launched the e-learning course on Core Labor Standards.

- Transformed IT training and knowledge services by implementing 100% virtual training sessions, training videos, and self-paced e-learning courses, and piloted ADB Indigo, an artificial intelligence-powered learning experience platform for ADB personnel’s digital fitness. Strengthened online cybersecurity training and phishing drills to protect ADB from cyberattacks and threats.

Health, Safety, and Security

During the 2020–2021 period, the Corporate Services Department took the opportunity of low staff presence at ADB headquarters (due to the pandemic) to implement long-planned enhancement of security measures, including smart passes for access to the building. This allows the security team to know instantly who is present within the building in the event of a major incident (earthquake, terrorist attack, typhoon, and others).

Competitive, locally-relevant health, medical, and disability benefits; employee medical care services; and compliance to international Occupational Health and Safety Management System standards combine to deliver on ADB’s promise of providing a safe and healthy working environment. ADB also ensures that employees deployed on mission travel have 24/7 access to the ADB incident coordinator. Health and recreational activities are widely encouraged to promote good health, well-being, and facilitate interaction among the staff.

Table 3: Inquiries Reviewed by the Office of Professional Conduct

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethics-Related Inquiries</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace Concerns</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 4: First Aid, Emergency Family Preparedness, and Fire and Safety Prevention Training, 2020–2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISO Orientations</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>478 participants</td>
<td>859</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Participants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid Training</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Preparedness Emergency Sessions</td>
<td>857</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Safety and Prevention Training</td>
<td>129</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ISO = International Organization for Standardization.
ADB’s resource conservation programs were impacted by the pandemic as it reduced headquarters building operations. Work-from-home arrangements for staff and onsite skeleton workforce contributed to significant reductions in electricity and water use as compared to the pre–pandemic period. Reduced land travel also contributed to lower fuel consumption and equivalent carbon emissions. While these reductions had positive effects on ADB’s headline resource conservation performance, ADB revised its targets and performance monitoring procedures to account for changing conditions. In 2021, interim targets were set. ADB used weekly consumption data tracking for energy and water use.

**Energy Consumption and Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

| Table 4: Total Fuel Consumption from Nonrenewable Fuel Sources for 2019–2021 (MJ) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                 | 2019            | 2020            | 2021            |
| Diesel fuel                     | 1,259,739.56    | 2,396,235.50    | 734,340.30      |
| Increase in diesel fuel         | Increase in diesel fuel consumption due to frequent use of backup power generators during typhoons and major events. |
| LPG                             | 1,854,413.99    | 661,258.40      | 115,137.06      |
| Reduction in LPG consumption    | Reduction in LPG consumption in 2020 and 2021 due to reduced kitchen operations throughout the pandemic. |
| Road Transport                  | 2,231,718.00    | 622,444.76      | 425,849.84      |
| Reduction in road transport     | Reduction in road transport fuel use in 2020 and 2021 due to restriction of travel within Metro Manila during the pandemic. |
| TOTAL                           | 5,345,872.00    | 3,679,939.00    | 1,275,327.00    |

LPG = liquefied petroleum gas, MJ = megajoule.
Source: Corporate Services Department, Asian Development Bank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 5: Energy Intensity, 2019–2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Energy consumption (MJ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor area (m²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Intensity (MJ per m²)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Significant decrease from 2019 due to reduced building operations and occupancy levels during the pandemic. Energy consumption includes fuel and electricity used at the ADB headquarters.

MJ = megajoules, m² = square meter.
ADB's GHG emissions in 2021 were 31.19% lower compared to 2020, and 88.73% lower compared to 2013 (baseline year) for GHG monitoring.

**Figure 5: ADB Scope 1, 2, and 3 Emissions from 2013 to 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scope</th>
<th>tCO₂e</th>
<th>% Reduction vs. 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scope 1: Direct Emissions</strong></td>
<td>527.25</td>
<td>1,625.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scope 2: Indirect Emissions</strong></td>
<td>10,532.78</td>
<td>745.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scope 3: Other Indirect Emissions</strong></td>
<td>9,467.65</td>
<td>10,216.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>20,527.68</td>
<td>12,586.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

( ) = negative, CO₂ = carbon dioxide, GHG = greenhouse gas, tCO₂e = ton of carbon dioxide equivalent.

Note: ADB’s GHG inventory does not include GHG emissions from the investment projects ADB finances and supports.
**Waste Management**
Waste generation was significantly lower in 2020 and 2021 compared to the pre-pandemic period. However, ADB has maintained its waste recovery rate above the target of 50% (54% in 2020 and 58% in 2021).

Other initiatives to improve resource efficiency and sustainability at ADB headquarters:

- Installation of low-flow water fixtures.
- Installation of light-emitting diode (LED) lamps.
- Water level sensors and additional isolation valves installed in the water distribution system to minimize water losses during maintenance and repair works.
- Implementation of centralized waste bin collection to improve waste segregation and recovery of recyclables, while encouraging movement and wellness.

**Waste Management**
In 2020 and 2021, the total water consumption in ADB headquarters decreased by an average of 41% from 2019. This was caused by low occupancy in the building due to the pandemic.

**Table 6: Total Recycled and Reused Water, 2019–2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater</td>
<td>6,715.00</td>
<td>3,060.00</td>
<td>5,833.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collected rainwater</td>
<td>5,659.00</td>
<td>2,269.00</td>
<td>4,898.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backwash water*</td>
<td>138.12</td>
<td>75.17</td>
<td>61.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,512.12</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,404.17</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,792.78</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Backwash water is water coming from cleaning of centralized water filtration tanks.

**Corporate Sustainability Efforts**
ADB continues to improve on its sustainability performance by designing for energy and water efficiency in new office spaces while promoting a healthy and collaborative work environment. Green building recertification is targeted to be achieved by December 2023. ADB’s certifications to international management system standards will be maintained and recertified in 2024 as it continues to drive innovations in building operations and mitigate environmental impacts. Significant energy uses on air-conditioning, ventilation, lighting, and plug loads will continue to be monitored and building systems upgraded. Nonpotable water and rainwater collection will be used for irrigation and for flushing toilets. Improved waste segregation through centralized waste bins is expected to improve waste recycling and reuse even as ADB headquarters returns to increased occupancy.

Third-party verification of GHG emissions will be conducted in 2023 and ADB will continue to offset its residual GHG emissions annually.
Asian Development Bank Sustainability Report 2022

Part I: Highlights

The Asian Development Bank Sustainability Report is a biennial publication on the integration of economic, social, and environmental sustainability into ADB’s operations. It is composed of two parts. Part I: Highlights covers noteworthy sustainability impacts and stories from ADB’s projects, technical assistance, and knowledge work as well as developments within the organization, including in ADB headquarters and field offices. Part II: The Global Reporting Initiative Content Index provides detailed information against the sustainability reporting standards of the Global Reporting Initiative.

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.