



February 2018

Quarterly Summary Report on Approved
(A) Transaction Technical Assistance Not Exceeding
\$5,000,000; (B) Knowledge and Support Technical
Assistance Projects Not Exceeding \$225,000; and
(C) Technical Assistance Cluster Subprojects
(October–December 2017)

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LIST OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS				
Seq. No.	TA No.	TA Name	Amount (\$'000)	Date Approved
(A) TRANSACTION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000,000				
1. PROJECT PREPARATORY				
1	9456-ARM	Social Sectors Reform Program	800.0	7-Dec-17
2	9494-ARM	Vertical Mobility and Safety Improvement	225.0	21-Nov-17
3	9397-CAM	Second Upper Secondary Education Sector Development Program	800.0	3-Oct-17
4	9423-CAM	Skills for Competitiveness	1,200.0	18-Nov-17
5	9398-PRC	Green Finance Catalyzing Facility	450.0	3-Oct-17
6	9437-PRC	Supporting Project Preparation	1,300.0	5-Dec-17
7	9455-IND	Enhancing Capacity of State Utilities in Preparing Energy Sector Projects	750.0	8-Dec-17
8	9406-INO	Advanced Knowledge and Skills for Sustainable Growth	800.0	23-Oct-17
9	9431-KAZ	Integrated Health Care Development	500.0	29-Nov-17
10	9462-KAZ	Kazakhstan Urban Infrastructure Modernization Program and Finance Facility	1,000.0	12-Dec-17
11	9426-LAO	Northern Cross-Border Power Trade and Distribution	800.0	22-Nov-17
12	9448-MON	Strengthening Information and Communication Technology Systems for Efficient and Transparent Public Investment and Tax Administration	400.0	29-Nov-17
13	9451-MON	Aimag and Soum Centers Regional Development Investment Program	1,500.0	5-Dec-17
14	9413-MYA	Resilient Communities Development	1,200.0	26-Oct-17
15	9400-PAK	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Intermediate Cities Improvement	225.0	5-Oct-17
16	9410-PAK	Sindh Secondary Education Improvement	1,000.0	27-Oct-17
17	9411-PAK	Integrated Information and Communications Technology Development	850.0	30-Oct-17
18	9442-PAK	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Water Resources Development	1,200.0	6-Dec-17
19	9458-PAK	Greater Thal Canal Irrigation Investment Program	1,400.0	11-Dec-17
20	9465-PAK	Punjab Intermediate Cities Improvement Investment (Phase 2)	225.0	15-Dec-17
21	9428-PNG	Power Sector Development Investment Program	3,200.0	22-Nov-17
22	9432-PHI	Metro Manila Transport, Phase 1	1,500.0	1-Dec-17
23	9399-SRI	Health System Enhancement	500.0	5-Oct-17
24	9460-SRI	Power System Reliability Strengthening	1,500.0	11-Dec-17
25	9407-TAJ	Dushanbe Urban Water Supply and Sanitation	650.0	20-Oct-17
26	9422-UZB	Second Tashkent Province Water Supply Development	800.0	9-Nov-17
27	9425-REG	Capacity Building and Sector Reform for Renewable Energy Investments in the Pacific	5,000.0	22-Nov-17

Seq. No.	TA No.	TA Name	Amount (\$'000)	Date Approved
(A) TRANSACTION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000,000				
2. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY ADVICE				
28	9439-AZE	Capacity Development and Reform Support for Railway Sector Development	1,000.0	6-Dec-17
29	9408-BAN	Updating the Road Master Plan	2,000.0	24-Oct-17
30	9452-BAN	Improving Secondary Education Sector Management	500.0	7-Dec-17
31	9472-BAN	Sustainable Management of Community Development for Chittagong Hill Tracts	500.0	15-Dec-17
32	9436-PRC	Heilongjiang Business Development Services Support to Strengthen Financial Intermediation Component Implementation	750.0	5-Dec-17
33	9430-IND	Enhancing Sustainability and Innovation in Rural Road Development	500.0	29-Nov-17
34	9421-MON	Ulaanbaatar Pro-Poor Urban Redevelopment Support System for Ger Areas	500.0	6-Nov-17
35	9457-NEP	Institutional Strengthening of the Nepal Rural Road Sector for Sustainable Development	1,000.0	11-Dec-17
36	9469-PAK	Enhancing Public-Private Partnerships in Punjab	4,008.7	15-Dec-17
37	9483-PAK	Capacity Building for Khushhali Bank Limited	500.0	22-Dec-17
38	9424-PHI	Institutionalizing Capital Market Reforms	500.0	21-Nov-17
39	9429-SRI	Capacity Development of Institutions of Jaffna Water Sector	500.0	28-Nov-17
40	9459-UZB	Power Sector Reform and Sustainability Support Program	2,000.0	12-Dec-17
41	9443-REG	Strengthening Capacity to Design and Implement Water and Rural Infrastructure Facility	500.0	1-Dec-17
42	9464-REG	Pacific Disaster Resilience Program	2,000.0	14-Dec-17
(B) KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS NOT EXCEEDING \$225,000				
43	9445-AZE	Rapid Response Support for Strategic Reforms	225.0	6-Dec-17
44	9470-BAN	SASEC Bangladesh-India Electrical Grid Interconnection	225.0	12-Dec-17
45	9477-KAZ	Establishment of the Kazakhstan Knowledge Center on Integrated Water Resources Management	225.0	11-Dec-17
46	9444-NEP	Support for Value Chain Development under the Nepal Agriculture Development Strategy	225.0	5-Dec-17
47	9454-SRI	Supporting Delivery of Strategic Knowledge Solutions	225.0	11-Dec-17
48	9493-TAJ	Improving Urban Policy for Small and Medium Enterprises' Growth and Economic Diversification	225.0	20-Dec-17
49	9479-UZB	Mortgage Market Development Program	225.0	19-Dec-17
50	9486-UZB	Strengthening the Capacity in Project Management	225.0	22-Dec-17

Seq. No.	TA No.	TA Name	Amount (\$'000)	Date Approved
(B) KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS NOT EXCEEDING \$225,000				
51	9466-REG	Strengthening Compliance Review and Accountability to Project Affected Persons of Financial Intermediaries	225.0	14-Dec-17
52	9474-REG	Strengthening Urban Investment Planning and Project Preparation and Implementation in Central and West Asia	225.0	18-Dec-17
53	9489-REG	Capacity Building Program for Journalists in Developing Member Countries, 2018-2019	225.0	20-Dec-17
(C) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLUSTER SUBPROJECTS				
54	9495-TIM	Policy and Planning Development for Public Investments (Subproject 1)	1,200.0	21-Dec-17
55	9401-REG	Asian Development Outlook 2016–2018 – Asian Development Outlook 2018 (Subproject 3)	1,200.0	6-Oct-17
56	9402-REG	Developing Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches, and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries (Subproject 3)	1,500.0	12-Oct-17
57	9409-REG	Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2018–2020 – Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2019 (Subproject 2)	1,000.0	25-Oct-17
58	9473-REG	Olam International Limited: Inclusive, Sustainable, and Connected Coffee Value Chain (Subproject 1)	500.0	18-Dec-17
59	9475-REG	Deepening Civil Society Engagement for Development Effectiveness – Deepening ADB–Civil Society Engagement in Selected Countries in Central and West Asia, East Asia, and the Pacific (Subproject 1)	400.0	20-Dec-17
60	9482-REG	Selected Evaluation Studies and Outreach 2017–2019 – Selected Evaluation Studies and Outreach for 2018–2019 (Subproject 2)	2,500.0	20-Dec-17
61	9485-REG	Microfinance Risk Participation and Guarantee Program - Transaction Support for Expansion Subproject 1: Expansion Support	500.0	20-Dec-17

(A) TRANSACTION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000,000

1. PROJECT PREPARATORY

TA 9456-ARM: Social Sectors Reform Program

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Finance
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	800.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	09 January 2018
Date Approved	:	07 December 2017

The program will support the Government of Armenia in developing and financing timely and comprehensive policy reforms in the education and health sectors. It will cover three reform areas in education and health: (i) resource planning and allocation; (ii) monitoring systems; and (iii) regulatory and accreditation frameworks. These reforms will enable the government to strengthen the efficient utilization of resources and provision of quality services in these sectors. The TA is required to support the policy dialogue and assist in the preparation and implementation of the subprograms. It will: (i) assess State Program of Education Development 2017–2025, and the provide technical support for implementation planning; (ii) support expansion of the education management and information system to cover all levels of education; (iii) support the development of national teacher standards, modern teacher training programs, and professional development programs for educational leaders; (iv) assess public financial management systems in the social sectors; (v) assess the optimization of primary health care and hospitals through an integrated health care model; and (vi) assess the medical education system and programs. Outputs from these activities will help the government and ADB develop policy-based loan that is aligned with ADB's country partnership strategy, 2014–2018 for Armenia, the Armenia Development Strategy for 2014–2025, and the Perspective Development Strategic Program 2014–2025.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9494-ARM: Vertical Mobility and Safety Improvement

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Economy
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	225.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	07 December 2017
Date Approved	:	21 November 2017

Many of the elevators in the municipality of Yerevan are beyond their useful asset lives or have been inadequately maintained. Service interruptions caused by elevator breakdowns are common, and in some cases elevator accidents have led to injury and death. Due to fiscal constraints and efforts to limit the growth of public debt, the municipality of Yerevan has requested ADB's support to identify investment needs and financing options for a project to renew and upgrade elevator equipment and put in place a financially and technically sustainable arrangement for operation and maintenance. The TA will support feasibility work, prepare financial structuring options for private sector participation, and examine the financial and legislative basis for sub-sovereign borrowing. The expected outcome is improved elevator infrastructure in the municipality of Yerevan, leading to more efficient, reliable, and safer services.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9397-CAM: Second Upper Secondary Education Sector Development Program

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	800.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	03 October 2017
Date Approved	:	03 October 2017

The program aims to support the development of high-quality human resources by improving the effectiveness of upper secondary education (USE). Its three key outputs will be: (i) improved quality of teachers in upper secondary schools; (ii) improved quality and labor market relevance of upper secondary education; and (iii) strengthened institutional capacity for planning, management, and delivery of education. The TA will help the government to prepare a program that is anchored on the government's reform priorities for the upper secondary education and is suitable for the ADB financing in all dimensions: technical, financial, economic, institutional, sector policy, and safeguards. Its main outputs will be: (i) scope and coverage of the program determined; (ii) due diligence requirements completed; and (iii) project implementation arrangements prepared.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9423-CAM: Skills for Competitiveness

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,200.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	24 October 2017
Date Approved	:	18 November 2017

The project aims to enhance skills and competitiveness of Cambodia's labor force for the industry sector. It will develop human resources in higher value-added industries by: (i) strengthening selected public post-secondary technical training institutes in priority sectors and locations; (ii) promoting work-based learning programs to upskill the current workforce; and (iii) supporting the government's planned skills development fund. These will result in improved skills and competitiveness of men and women in the industry sector. The project will be aligned with the impact of an industrial structure modernized and transformed from labor-intensive to skills driven by 2025. The TA is needed to review Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) policies, systems, performance, and constraints in Cambodia's industrial sector to identify areas for ADB support to public post-secondary skills development in growing sub-sectors. It will develop the project in accordance with the priorities outlined in Cambodia's Industrial Development Policy 2015–2025 and the new National TVET Policy 2017–2025. The TA activities will: (i) determine scope and coverage of the proposed project; (ii) prepare due diligence requirements; and (iii) prepare project implementation arrangements.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9398-PRC: Green Finance Catalyzing Facility

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Finance
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	450.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	10 October 2017

Date Approved : 03 October 2017

The Green Finance Catalyzing Facility (GFCF) directly supports People's Republic of China's estimated \$320 billion annual requirement over 5 years to move to an ecological civilization paradigm and reconcile economic development with the environment. Its key outputs are: (i) increased green and bankable infrastructure projects by participating financial institutions; and (ii) improved capacity development of government and financial institutions to screen, appraise, and collate a pipeline of projects for GFCF financing. The outcome will be increased greening of the infrastructure sector in the PRC. The impact includes green growth to vigorously promote an increase in green investment and strengthen overall control of the carbon emissions and energy, water, and construction land consumption. The TA is needed to prepare the program to engage with the various stakeholders in the central and local governments and with the proposed co-financiers for this program. It will have the following outputs: (i) finalized structure of the GFCF, and (ii) capacity development of the central and local governments to identify, screen, and appraise green projects and to prepare green investment plans from the master plans.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9437-PRC: Supporting Project Preparation

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,300.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 13 December 2017
Date Approved : 05 December 2017

The TA facility aims to provide project preparation support to the following projects: (i) Green Finance Catalyzing Facility; (ii) Xiangyang Elderly Care Service Development; (iii) Jilin Yanji Low-Carbon Climate-Resilient Urban Development; and (iv) Multimodal Passenger Hubs Development. These projects involve investments in green and low carbon infrastructure and elderly care which are key strategic priorities for both the government of the People's Republic of China and ADB. The TA will have the following outputs: (i) feasibility study; (ii) economic and financial due diligence; (iii) safeguards due diligence; (iv) poverty, social, and gender analyses; and (v) completion of other standard ADB documents and other requirements. These will result to an efficient and strategic implementation of a consolidated TA to support project preparation aiming at faster delivery of the projects, quicker and more flexible responsiveness to support lending operations, and higher readiness of approved projects.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9455-IND: Enhancing Capacity of State Utilities in Preparing Energy Sector Projects

Executing Agency : The Ministry of Power
TA Amount (\$'000) : 750.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 11 December 2017
Date Approved : 08 December 2017

The TA facility aims to provide project preparation support to the following projects: (i) Uttar Pradesh Power Distribution Rehabilitation; (ii) Meghalaya Power Sector Improvement; and (iii) Tamil Nadu Power Transmission Improvement. These projects aim to improve the quality of

electricity supply, reduce aggregate technical and commercial losses, and improve the financial performance of distribution companies. The projects' outputs include: (i) strengthened sub-transmission network; (ii) converted 11 kilovolts (kV) and 33 kV sub-transmission lines to underground cables and low voltage lines with bare conductors to aerial bundled conductors in urban areas; (iii) enhanced distribution capacity by increasing distribution substations and distribution transformers; (iv) installed supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems for real time network monitoring and operation; (v) installed smart meters for large consumers, feeders, and distribution transformers; (vi) installed prepaid meters or replacement of existing electromechanical meters to improve billing efficiency in rural areas; (vii) separated agriculture and non-agriculture feeders, and pilot testing of solar water pump; and (viii) installed new mini and small hydropower plants to increase renewable energy generation. The TA facility will provide external consultants to assist in preparing the investment projects. The TA facility will have the following outputs: (i) network plan for rehabilitating electricity distribution network in Varanasi Uttar Pradesh and Meghalaya; (ii) safeguard due diligence of small hydro projects in Meghalaya; (iii) technical specifications for SCADA; and (iv) diagnostic studies to identify possible investment opportunities in Tamil Nadu and several other states.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9406-INO: Advanced Knowledge and Skills for Sustainable Growth

Executing Agency : Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education
TA Amount (\$'000) : 800.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 02 October 2017
Date Approved : 23 October 2017

The project aims to support Indonesia's higher education system in providing advanced skills and knowledge to support sustainable economic growth. It will have two key outputs: (i) market responsive programs delivered by selected higher education institutions in Aceh, Jambi, and Riau; and (ii) improved teacher training provided by the Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia. The outcome will be strengthened relevance and quality of targeted higher education institutions. The impact of the project will be increased income and productivity of the working age population. The TA will support the government in the timely and quality design of the project. It will: (i) finalize the scope and coverage of the project; (ii) conduct due diligence requirements for the project component; and (iii) prepare project implementation arrangements.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9431-KAZ: Integrated Health Care Development

Executing Agency : Ministry of Health (formerly Ministry of Healthcare and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan)
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 05 December 2017
Date Approved : 29 November 2017

The project focuses on improving health care infrastructure and services by effectively leveraging public resources to crowd-in private sector participation. It will: (i) construct and/or refurbish

primary health care facilities; (ii) develop integrated demonstration project; and (iii) strengthen institutional capacity to develop and implement financially viable projects. These solutions will result in a more integrated and modernized health service network. The impact will be improved quality and efficiency of public health care. The TA will: (i) prepare detailed project design and costing; and (ii) undertake project due diligence.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9462-KAZ: Kazakhstan Urban Infrastructure Modernization Program and Finance Facility

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 20 November 2017
Date Approved : 12 December 2017

The project is a medium to long-term roadmap to ensure sustainable development and financing of urban infrastructure operationalized through a national level facility—Kazakhstan Urban Infrastructure Financing Facility (KUIFF). The project will have three outputs: (i) KUIFF established with technical support and financing units under a directorate with at least three urban infrastructure and services projects; (ii) key policy, legal and regulatory, and institutional measures implemented; and (iii) strengthened capacity of the government to screen, evaluate, and implement urban projects. The outcome will be increased financing for urban infrastructure and services projects. The impact will be improved quality of life for people and accelerated economic growth in Kazakhstan. The TA will: (i) prepare conceptual design of the KUIFF; (ii) identify urgent urban infrastructure and services projects for sovereign funding and at least three demonstration projects for private sector participation including the undertaking of preliminary technical, financial, economic, social, and environmental due diligence of these projects; (iii) identify and design the key policy, institutional, legal, and financial measures for enabling private sector participation; and (iv) develop a medium-term capacity development plan for government staff.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9426-LAO: Northern Cross-Border Power Trade and Distribution

Executing Agency : Electricite du Laos
TA Amount (\$'000) : 800.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 29 November 2017
Date Approved : 22 November 2017

The project aims to promote regional power exchange in the Greater Mekong Subregion and expand access to energy in several northern provinces in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). It will help address Lao PDR's need to: (i) expand access to low-cost, reliable power in rural areas; and (ii) develop power interconnections between Lao PDR and Thailand and Myanmar to increase power trade. It will support the national electric utility with the following outputs: (i) expanded electricity distribution in the provinces of Luang Namtha, Bokeo, and Phongsaly; and (ii) cross-border transmission line(s) connecting Lao PDR with Thailand and/or Myanmar. The outcome will be increased domestic electricity consumption and cross-border electricity trade. The TA will help identify all project components and prepare the project through

completion of the project feasibility study, least-cost electrification analysis, front-end engineering design, and preparation of bid documents for the engineering, procurement, and construction contract for the recommended transmission and distribution systems.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9448-MON: Strengthening Information and Communication Technology Systems for Efficient and Transparent Public Investment and Tax Administration

Executing Agency : Ministry of Finance
TA Amount (\$'000) : 400.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 07 December 2017
Date Approved : 29 November 2017

The project will support the Government of Mongolia in strengthening public financial resource management through improved information and communication technology (ICT), especially in Public Investment Management (PIM) and tax administration. It has two components: (i) support to the Mongolian Tax Authority to re-design and improve business process, establish Tax Administration and Information System (TAIS), and develop capacities of the staff; and (ii) support to the Budget Investment Department, Ministry of Finance to examine and redesign business process, develop a comprehensive public investment management information system (PIMIS), and develop capacities of staff. Under both components, the project will have the following three outputs: (i) streamlined and improved business process for tax administration and public investment; (ii) improved and functionally strengthened ICT system for tax administration and public investment; and (iii) increased capacity of staff in administering and managing TAIS and PIMIS. These will result in the following outcome: transparency and efficiency of tax administration systems and PIM in Mongolia strengthened. The TA will: (i) conduct due diligence and prepare project documents; (ii) finalize preliminary design and system specifications and prepare bidding documents; and (iii) improve project management capacity of the executing agency.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9451-MON: Aimag and Soum Centers Regional Development Investment Program

Executing Agency : Ministry of Construction and Urban Development
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 26 January 2018
Date Approved : 05 December 2017

The program aims to improve basic urban services and promote the local economy in priority *aimag* (province) capitals and *soum* (subunit of an *aimag*) centers of Mongolia. It will have the following outputs: (i) improved municipal infrastructure and urban services in targeted areas; (ii) improved economic infrastructure and facilities in targeted areas; (iii) increased road linkages within targeted urban regions; and (iv) strengthened capacity in program and institutional management. The project will benefit the population and private sector in targeted RUCs from improved urban and economic facilities and services. The program will achieve more sustainable development in Mongolia, driven by multisector economy and ecological balance. The TA will help in the investment program preparation which is a complex and multisector undertaking that

requires full scale due diligence in technical, economic, financial, social, resettlement, environmental, and institutional aspects.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9413-MYA: Resilient Communities Development

Executing Agency : Department of Rural Development
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,200.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 01 August 2017
Date Approved : 26 October 2017

The project will support the government's policy of strengthening community resilience through rural livelihoods and village infrastructure. It will finance a community-based development approach to deliver community infrastructure and livelihood projects to 25 poor townships covering approximately 600,000 households. The project outputs include: (i) developed climate resilient community infrastructure; (ii) resilient livelihood activities for women and poor in project areas; and (iii) strengthened institutional and organizational capacity of communities and local governments. These will result in improved living conditions and resilience of selected communities. The impact will be an improved income of rural households and strong resilience of communities to climate and disaster. The TA is needed for project preparation. It will: (i) assist in loan processing and implementation startup for the ensuing loan; (ii) design and incorporate resilience strengthening elements in the project; (iii) develop the monitoring and evaluation framework, targeting protocols, grant allocation formula, and baseline studies for the project; and (iv) formulate the capacity building plan and conducting the training of trainers.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9400-PAK: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Intermediate Cities Improvement

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 10 January 2018
Date Approved : 05 October 2017

Basic urban services and institutions are unable to keep pace with the population growth in Pakistan's cities, which has grown by 71% over the past 19 years. This has led to a degraded urban environment with poor urban services, unhealthy public spaces, and a shortage of civic amenities. The project aims to improve the quality of life of urban residents in the three most populous cities Abbottabad, Mardan, and Peshawar through key urban infrastructure improvement. The TA will: (i) conduct timely and effective due diligence assessments; and (ii) ensure coordination and consistency of project design and quality of loan documents. Various project preparation activities, including the preparation of project design advance, are currently ongoing. The ensuing loan will be considered for approval in 2019.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9410-PAK: Sindh Secondary Education Improvement

Executing Agency	:	School Education and Literacy Department, Government of Sindh
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	02 November 2017
Date Approved	:	27 October 2017

The project will support investments, capacity building, policy and program development in secondary education in Sindh. It will support the Sindh School Education and Literacy Department (SSELD) to implement aspects of the Sindh Education Sector Plan 2014–2018 by increasing access to, and improving the quality of secondary education in the province. Its key outputs are: (i) expanded network of quality secondary schools; (ii) enhanced teacher, quality, management and accountability; and (iii) strengthened secondary education sector governance. The outcome will be enhanced equitable access to quality secondary education. The impact will be more qualified human resource base established. The TA will support capacity building of the Sindh Education Foundation and the public-private partnership (PPP) node in SSELD, as well as engagement of consultants to assist in the development of an education PPP policy, a revised teacher training and accountability framework, and reform the system of school examinations. It will: (i) develop detailed project design; (ii) conduct project due diligence; and (iii) facilitate project processing and implementation.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9411-PAK: Integrated Information and Communications Technology Development

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	850.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	02 October 2017
Date Approved	:	30 October 2017

The project will support the government to adopt a long-term strategy and implementation framework for the reinvigoration of information and communication technology (ICT) sector and smart city solutions to allow holistic development of information and technology (IT) ecosystem, through the establishment of a benchmark model IT park in Pakistan. Its key outputs will be: (i) an IT park set up as a benchmark model in Karachi; (ii) national ICT strategic framework; (iii) smart city strategy developed and piloted; and (iv) strengthened ICT skills in higher education stream with technological readiness for knowledge-based economy. These will result in strengthened holistic development of the ICT sector in Pakistan. The impact will be increased ICT industry contribution to inclusive growth. The TA will: (i) develop a detailed workplan; (ii) develop the national ICT strategic framework; (iii) assess the status of IT park in Pakistan; (iv) finalize a feasibility report; (v) undertake economic and financial analysis; (vi) assess capacity building needs of the project; (vii) conduct poverty, social, and gender assessment and resettlement safeguards; and (viii) conduct a feasibility study and prepare advance design for the construction of IT park.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9442-PAK: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Water Resources Development

Executing Agency	:	Irrigation Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,200.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	14 December 2017
Date Approved	:	06 December 2017

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province Irrigation Department has identified three subprojects forming the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Water Resources Development Project. The first subproject will comprise the construction of the Mulkoh irrigation distribution system (IDS) and its command area development (CAD) in Chitral district in the north of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province (KPP). The second subproject will comprise the modernization of the Tanda IDS and its CAD in Kohat district in the central valley plain of KPP. And the third subproject will comprise the modernization of the Pehur main canal (PMC) IDS and its CAD in Swabi district in the central valley plain of KPP. The project aims to reduce poverty and ensure food insecurity through: (i) establishing or modernizing IDS covering the three subproject areas; and (ii) increased water-use and farm-management capacities in the subproject areas. The outcome will be increased agriculture production in the subproject areas. The TA will prepare the ensuing loan project covering the three subprojects including project due diligence.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9458-PAK: Greater Thal Canal Irrigation Investment Program

Executing Agency	:	Punjab Irrigation Department
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,400.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	14 December 2017
Date Approved	:	11 December 2017

The investment program aims to enhance food security and rural economic growth in Punjab province. The Greater Thal Canal (GTC) irrigation scheme will convert about 704,000 hectares of unproductive lands to irrigated lands. Parts of the scheme have been or will be constructed with the government's fund. The investment program will support the construction of the remaining parts of the scheme covering 440,000 hectares. It will also provide support to farmers for on-farm development and management capacity development. The outputs are: (i) three branches of the GTC irrigation system; (ii) improved farmer's on-farm and water management capacity; and (iii) strengthened institutional system for irrigation scheme management. The outcome will be increased agricultural production in the project area. The TA will review the existing detailed design, update cost estimates, verify economic feasibility and enhance readiness of the project. It will also conduct project related due diligence, including environmental and social safeguards, risk, and climate risk assessments.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9465-PAK: Punjab Intermediate Cities Improvement Investment (Phase 2)

Executing Agency	:	Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	225.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	10 January 2018

Date Approved : 15 December 2017

Rate of urbanization of Pakistan is unprecedented, where cumulatively the population of its cities has expanded by over 70% during the past two decades alone. As a result, its cities continue to experience relentless urban densification and expansion resulting in ever-increasing demand for urban services and growing pressures on urban service institutions to deliver. The first phase of the project aims to improve urban services in the two Punjab cities of Sialkot and Sahiwal. The second phase shall continue the momentum of the first phase and ensure development continuity by providing similar urban infrastructure investments and capacity support for an additional four Punjab cities, namely Sargodha, Rahim Yar Khan, Muzaffargarh, and Bahawalpur. The TA will support the: (i) preparation of feasibility and/or due diligence assessments based on prefeasibility studies to be conducted by the Cities Development Initiative for Asia; and (ii) ancillary works on project preparatory coordination for the second phase of the project. These will result in improved access to quality urban services by the residents of Sargodha, Rahim Yar Khan, Muzaffargarh, and Bahawalpur cities. The TA is aligned with the following impact: improved living standards, health, and economy in the four cities.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9428-PNG: Power Sector Development Investment Program

Executing Agency : Energy Division of the Department of Petroleum and Energy
TA Amount (\$'000) : 3,200.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 13 February 2018
Date Approved : 22 November 2017

The program will improve the access to electricity in provincial and urban centers of Papua New Guinea (PNG) by expanding the transmission and distribution network, improving system efficiencies and replacing high-cost diesel power generation with renewable energy. The expected outputs include: (i) strengthened and expanded transmission network; (ii) expanded distribution network; (iii) increased renewable energy for provincial grids; (iv) enhanced capacity of monitoring system; (v) mobilized private sector investments in rural electrification; and (vi) institutional support and capacity development. The outcome will be improved consumption of clean and reliable power supply in the investment program areas. The impact will be improved socio-economic conditions that is aligned with PNG Vision 2050. The TA will: (i) prepare the investment program and conduct due diligence; (ii) prepare the detailed engineering design and provide procurement support; and (iii) familiarize the implementing agency with ADB's procurement procedures, disbursement procedures, and safeguard requirements. It is expected to have the following outputs: (i) developed renewable energy policy; (ii) established energy sector monitoring and coordination committee; and (iii) increased capacity of Department of Petroleum and Energy and private sector.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9432-PHI: Metro Manila Transport, Phase 1

Executing Agency : Department of Transportation
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,500.0

Business Opportunities Listing : 28 November 2017
Date Approved : 01 December 2017

The project aims to address the key issue of high cost of transport across Manila and more specifically on the major transport corridor of the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA), by reducing travel time, increasing passenger throughput, improving connectivity between different transport modes and the surroundings areas, and improving the ability of government to manage and operate the various transport systems that run along EDSA in a more efficient and effective way. It will improve all major transport modes along EDSA, Metro Rail Transport Line 3, buses, and private vehicles, as well as improve pedestrian facilities. These will result in reduced cost of transportation. The impact will be improved economic competitiveness. The TA will help in project preparation and design of the reform program, as well as develop the capacity of key agencies to implement the project. It will have the following outputs: (i) core and non-core subprojects on pedestrian access and interchange improvements; (ii) improved measures and implementation arrangements to improve public transport operations; and (iii) capacity development assessment, traffic management and institutional oversight requirements assessment and actions for improvement identified.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9399-SRI: Health System Enhancement

Executing Agency : Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 09 October 2017
Date Approved : 05 October 2017

The project aims to enhance the Sri Lanka health system to adapt to emerging challenges and deal with shifting disease burdens. It will further improve national health system to expand services to vulnerable populations with lagging health indicators. Its key outputs will be: (i) strengthened primary health care (PHC); (ii) improved health and disease surveillance capacity; and (iii) supported policy development. The outcome will be enhanced sustainability and responsiveness of the health system, especially in lagging areas. The TA is required for project design and enhancement of its readiness through appropriate advance actions and support for implementation start-up. The outputs will include due diligence assessments covering: (i) review of health and disease surveillance system enhancement requirements; (ii) review of key health security gaps and measures to strengthen them; (iii) review of human resources for PHC; (iv) primary health infrastructure and equipment gap assessment; (v) medical equipment gap assessment; (vi) review of essential service delivery gaps at primary health level; (vii) review of community mobilization and information, education, communication requirements; (viii) procurement and governance due diligence; (ix) safeguards due diligence; (x) economic and financial analysis; (xi) gender, social and poverty analysis; and (xii) procurement plan, and detailed cost estimates.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9460-SRI: Power System Reliability Strengthening

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank

TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 14 December 2017
Date Approved : 11 December 2017

The project focuses on system reliability, optimization of existing fault clearance system of the Ceylon Electricity Board and Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Ltd. network and the settings of the main protection systems. It will ascertain the performance of existing protection system associated with transmission lines, transformers and generators connected to 220 kV and 132 kV networks and improve efficiency and reliability of the medium-voltage network in the distribution. The project's outputs include: (i) expanded transmission infrastructure nationwide; (ii) improved medium-voltage network infrastructure; and (iii) upgraded protection systems. These outputs will result in improved power system efficiency and reliability. The project will be aligned with the following impact: access to clean, reliable and affordable power supply in Sri Lanka increased by 2030. The TA will: (i) undertake study on power supply reliability and protection development; and (ii) conduct technical, economic, financial, safeguards and governance due diligence, prepare project cost estimates, procurement plan and implementation schedule.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9407-TAJ: Dushanbe Urban Water Supply and Sanitation

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 650.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 03 October 2017
Date Approved : 20 October 2017

The project aims to manage water demand, pressure, and nonrevenue water in a selected district of Dushanbe City and improve efficiency of operational and business service delivery by the State Unitary Enterprise Dushanbevodokanal to improve the quality of life in Dushanbe. It will: (i) rehabilitate and expand water supply infrastructure and pilot district metering areas (DMAs) or smart block management with pressure-reducing valves and smart meters; (ii) rehabilitate and expand the sewerage network in selected districts of Dushanbe City and undertake emergency repairs to stop seepage; (iii) establish a performance-oriented management information system with the use of supervisory control and data acquisition system for operational efficiency and geographic information system for asset management using cloud computing as a computing platform for efficient monitoring of DMAs; and (iv) improve project implementation with an updated organizational management structure. These outputs will result in improved access to safe and affordable water supply services in selected areas of Dushanbe. The project will have the following impacts: (i) improved quality of life, urban resilience, and economic growth in Dushanbe and; (ii) universal access to safe and affordable drinking water by 2030. The TA will help in project preparation, institutional and capacity development needs, and conduct due diligence for the technical, financial, economic, social, and environmental viability of the project.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9422-UZB: Second Tashkent Province Water Supply Development

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 800.0

Business Opportunities Listing : 20 November 2017
Date Approved : 09 November 2017

The project aims to provide reliable and sustainable water supply services along the entire economic growth corridor which has been prioritized for water supply improvements due to its economic importance, proximity to regional water sources, and poor water supply and sanitation standards. This second phase project will revitalize the water supply systems of the other two districts of the Kadiyra regional water supply system, namely Chinaz and Yangiyul. Its key outputs will be: (i) rehabilitated and operationalized water supply system in the Chinaz and Yangiyul districts; and (ii) improved efficiency and sustainability of Tashkent Provincial Suvokova and its Chinaz and Yangiyul district branches. These will result in improved and expanded access to reliable and affordable water supply services in the two districts. Its impact will be improved health and living conditions in Tashkent Province. The TA will: (i) design and implement field surveys and conduct analyses; (ii) complete institutional, financial, economic, and procurement assessments; (iii) conduct safeguards due diligence; (iv) prepare a feasibility assessment report; and, (v) facilitate initial project implementation.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9425-REG: Capacity Building and Sector Reform for Renewable Energy Investments in the Pacific

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 5,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 27 November 2017
Date Approved : 22 November 2017

Most utilities in the Pacific operate either as statutory authorities (i.e. are not corporate entities separate from the state), or as state-owned companies with varying forms of incorporation. Despite copious support over several decades from various external sources, including ADB, most utilities in the Pacific have not fully achieved their targets with respect to energy access or service quality and reliability, let alone financial self-sufficiency. The TA will support a paradigm shift through wholesale reform of sector frameworks and of client utilities. It will facilitate engagement with governments and electric power utilities to assess policy and institutional barriers to efficient, sustainable sector operations and impediments to increased capital investment. It will support sector reform, private sector development, and capacity building in the eleven smaller Pacific island countries, as well as in countries other than those covered by the project. It will have the following outputs/activities: (i) utilities' operations and performance assessment; (ii) review of utilities' business processes, systems, and management practices; (iii) review of policy, regulatory, and governance arrangements; and (iv) reform recommendations and policy dialogue completed and coordinated among regional peers.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

2. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY ADVICE

TA 9439-AZE: Capacity Development and Reform Support for Railway Sector Development

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Finance
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	06 December 2017
Date Approved	:	06 December 2017

The program aims to support the revamping of the railway subsector in Azerbaijan, which is still vertically integrated into one single railway agency—Azerbaijan Railways Closed Joint Stock Company (ADY). It will provide: (i) a policy-based loan to assist reforms of the Azerbaijan railway system so as to strengthen financial and management autonomy and governance, undertake financial restructuring of liabilities, enhance reporting and control as well as operational efficiency, and undertake corporate restructuring; and (ii) a project loan to rehabilitate the track and structure of the 166-kilometer Sumgayit–Yalama rail line—a key link in the North–South Railway Corridor within the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation network. Its key outputs will be: (i) enhanced governance, and management and financial autonomy; (ii) effective financial restructuring of ADY's debt liabilities; (iii) improved financial and management control and reporting; (iv) enhanced operational efficiency and effective corporate restructuring; and (v) improved infrastructure of the Sumgayit–Yalama rail line. The outcome will be improved rail service delivery and financial viability of railway operations in Azerbaijan. The impact will be economically sustained railway development for Azerbaijan. The TA will support the capacity building and the design and implementation of railway reforms.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9408-BAN: Updating the Road Master Plan

Executing Agency	:	Roads and Highways Department
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	2,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	24 October 2017
Date Approved	:	24 October 2017

The Road Master Plan was launched in 2009 by the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) in response to the direction given by the National Land Transport Policy of 2004. It presents a 20-year investment program for the road subsector, with the following objectives: (i) protect the value of the RHD's road and bridge assets; (ii) improve the connectivity of the road network; (iii) enhance and develop the strategic road network to meet economic and traffic growth targets; (iv) improve the zila (district) road network to enhance the country's growth centers; (v) improve road safety and reduce road accidents; (vi) provide environmental and social protection; and (vii) outline the institutional improvements required for the RHD to deliver the above. The project aims to update the Road Master Plan. It will deliver the following outputs: (i) upgraded Dhaka–Northwest international trade corridor; (ii) enhanced institutional capacity of the RHD for road operation and management; and (iii) stronger road safety and gender-responsive Dhaka–Northwest international trade corridor. The outcome will be improved road connectivity and efficiency of the Dhaka–Northwest international trade corridor. The TA will support the government in updating its Road Master Plan, improving its planning capacity, and facilitating and monitoring of the key project implementation activities, such as procurement and land acquisition.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9452-BAN: Improving Secondary Education Sector Management

Executing Agency : Ministry of Education
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 14 December 2017
Date Approved : 07 December 2017

The Secondary Education Sector Investment Program (SESIP) (2013–2023) supports the government's reform of secondary education (grades 6–12) into a system that builds the foundation for a skilled labor force and prepares the youth to meet the requirements of a rapidly developing economy. SESIP supports the government's Secondary Education Development Program (SEDP) (2018–2023) which incorporated the Secondary Education Sector Road Map prepared by SESIP. Its key outputs are: (i) enhanced quality and relevance of secondary education; (ii) increased equitable access and retention of secondary education; and (iii) strengthened secondary education management and governance. The impact will be a more efficient, equitable, and higher quality secondary education system. The TA is needed to strengthen the fiduciary management of SEDP. It will specifically support capacity development in fiduciary risk management.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9472-BAN: Sustainable Management of Community Development for Chittagong Hill Tracts

Executing Agency : Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, Bangladesh
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 22 December 2017
Date Approved : 15 December 2017

The Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project (CHTRDP II) is contributing to poverty reduction by making social services and economic opportunities more accessible to rural people, including indigenous people (IP) and poor women, in three hill districts (Bandarban, Khagrachari, and Rangamati) of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT). It has been strengthening institutional capacity; improving the access of remote communities to main roads; and providing improved alternative water resources infrastructure and agribusiness support to increase economic opportunities, particularly of women, to improve rural incomes. Its main outputs are: (i) developed institutional capacity; (ii) upgraded 100 km of Rural Roads; (iii) maintained community infrastructure in 600 villages; (iv) developed sustainable micro agribusiness in nine sub-districts; and (v) efficient project management system. The outcome is increased income-generating opportunities for men and women in subproject areas. Its impact is increased rural household incomes in subproject areas in CHT. The TA will address challenges in the operation and maintenance of community infrastructure and public assets built through two ADB-assisted projects in CHT (CHTRDP I closed in June 2010, and CHTRDP II ongoing), and increase the capacity of village level institutes headed by IPs of CHT in planning for local development and service delivery. Total 300 IP villages will be benefited, and Operation and Maintenance Capacity will be developed within 1,400 IP leaders and 125 unemployed youths in the target villages through the TA support, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9436-PRC: Heilongjiang Business Development Services Support to Strengthen Financial Intermediation Component Implementation

Executing Agency : Heilongjiang Provincial Government
TA Amount (\$'000) : 750.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 05 December 2017
Date Approved : 05 December 2017

The project aims to improve the environment for private sector development by enabling and catalyzing a diverse, non-coal economic future for the project cities of Hegang, Jixi, Qitaihe, and Shuangyashan. It will: (i) develop capacity in business development services and integrated project planning and management; (ii) improve sustainable small- and medium-sized enterprises (SME) investment and access to finance in project cities; (iii) construct key infrastructure and SME facilities in non-coal industrial parks in project cities; (iv) improve remediation and environmental cleanup from mining impacts in project cities; and (v) improve integrated urban infrastructure and services in project cities. The expected outcome is increased non-coal economic activities and urban livability in project cities. The project is aligned with the following impacts: (i) economy revitalized and diversified and non-coal industries in the project cities developed; and (ii) living environment, safety, and public health in the project cities improved. The TA is designed to enhance the sustainability of SME development and non-coal diversification in the project cities by monitoring, detecting, and rectifying weaknesses of SME performance during the subloan implementation and the repayment period. The TA will reduce the risk of nonperforming SME loans through capacity development and implementation of corrective measures.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9430-IND: Enhancing Sustainability and Innovation in Rural Road Development

Executing Agency : Ministry of Rural Development
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 01 December 2017
Date Approved : 29 November 2017

The program aims to improve rural connectivity in the states of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and West Bengal, and thereby provide the rural communities with safer and more efficient access to livelihood and socioeconomic opportunities. It will: (i) build rural roads to all-weather standard for unconnected habitations; and (ii) upgrade other rural roads linking to district centers for an aggregate length of 12,000 kilometers. The outcome will be improved rural connectivity in the investment program states. The impact of the investment program will be improved mobility and accessibility in India. The TA will support the rural road network management units and rural connectivity training and research centers in contributing to the delivery of the intended outputs of the program. It will prepare the following major outputs: (i) state-specific rural road asset management plan; (ii) disaster risk and vulnerability report on rural roads; and (iii) state-specific feasibility study on innovative approaches to rural road construction and maintenance.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9421-MON: Ulaanbaatar Pro-Poor Urban Redevelopment Support System for Ger Areas

Executing Agency : Ulaanbaatar Municipal Government
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 13 November 2017
Date Approved : 06 November 2017

The program supports the delivery of the Ulaanbaatar City master plan in upgrading priority infrastructure services and developing economic hubs (subcenters) in *ger* (traditional yurt or tent) areas. Its outputs include: (i) expanded roads and urban services and improved connectivity between the targeted subcenters; (ii) improved economic and public services in targeted subcenters; (iii) more efficient service providers; and (iv) strengthened institutions and capacity for urban development, program management, and service delivery. The expected outcome is a network of livable, competitive, and inclusive subcenters in Ulaanbaatar's *ger* areas. The impact will be adequate basic infrastructure services, as well as public spaces and commercial services in *ger* areas. The TA will pilot information and communication technology tools for *ger* area redevelopment in: (i) enhancing municipality-level urban and redevelopment planning with mapping and monitoring indicators; (ii) supporting inclusive community engagement and access to economic opportunities in *ger* areas; and (iii) strengthening redevelopment monitoring and coordination capacity.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9457-NEP: Institutional Strengthening of the Nepal Rural Road Sector for Sustainable Development

Executing Agency : Department of Local Infrastructure Development and Agricultural Roads
TA Amount (\$'000) : 1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 11 December 2017
Date Approved : 11 December 2017

The project will improve the accessibility of the road network in agriculture value chain development zones in Nepal, and thereby increase rural population engagement in agricultural production, and agribusiness development. It will improve rural roads to all-weather standards, serving the productive agricultural areas and the rural population in 16 poor districts and ensuring roads are maintained in a sustainable manner. It will have two key outputs: (i) improved rural road conditions between the selected rural communities, productive agricultural areas, and socio-economic centers; and (ii) enhanced capacity of rural infrastructure agency and road users in project areas. These will result in increased transport efficiency on project roads. The impact will be improved connectivity between rural communities, productive agricultural areas, and socio-economic centers in Nepal. The TA will focus on: (i) redefining and restructuring of the Department of Local Infrastructure Development and Agricultural Roads (DOLIDAR) into a state-of-the-art rural road agency; and (ii) developing and implementing new business procedures, and training DOLIDAR and state and municipal officials to enable DOLIDAR to adopt a new institutional and management structure. It will: (i) develop an appropriate institutional structure for managing the overall rural road network; (ii) develop appropriate management structures for managing each layer of the rural road network; and (iii) implement new business procedures and provide training to DOLIDAR staff to enable organizational restructuring and adoption of a new institutional and management structure.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9469-PAK: Enhancing Public-Private Partnerships in Punjab

Executing Agency : Planning & Development Department, Government of the Punjab
TA Amount (\$'000) : 4,008.7
Business Opportunities Listing : 15 December 2017
Date Approved : 15 December 2017

The project aims to support PPPs in Punjab. To attain its growth objectives, the Government of Punjab has identified key drivers of change, including upgrading its infrastructure, reviving private sector investment, and providing quality social services. The project's key outputs are: (i) project development facility and viability gap fund (VGF) resources for PPP projects augmented; and (ii) PPP institutional capacity enhanced and strengthened. The outcome will be increased in sustainable and fiscally responsible PPP projects that offer value for money. The impact is increased in private sector investments and overall employment in Punjab. The TA is needed to help implement the VGF guidelines to be established under the project. The VGF is a powerful tool for leveraging PPP by: (i) providing upfront capital relief to fund project costs and thus ensure commercial viability; and (ii) lowering the cost of capital by providing concessional funding or capital subsidies that do not require future dividends or budget payments. The TA will also help improve government capacity to: (i) review PPP project proposals that require VGF support; (ii) provide recommendations to the PPP steering committee; and (iii) monitor project performance.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9483-PAK: Capacity Building for Khushhali Bank Limited

Executing Agency : Khushhali Bank Limited
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 22 December 2017
Date Approved : 22 December 2017

The project will support Khushhali Bank Limited's (KBL) financial inclusion for agri-borrowers and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). It will: (i) increase the capacity of KBL to serve MSMEs and agriculture-related clients, with a particular focus on female borrowers; (ii) improve KBL's staff capacity; and (iii) expand KBL's products and service delivery platform. The outcome will be increased uptake of KBL's financial services by MSMEs and agriculture-related clients. The impact will be increased access to finance for MSMEs and agri-borrowers. The TA will help KBL increase its capacity to provide loans to MSMEs and farmers to realize their investment needs. The TA will have the following outputs/activities: (i) establishment of Training Academy; (ii) review and reform Performance Planning, Coaching and Evaluation System; (iii) develop Digital Finance strategy; and (iv) innovate products and services for the rural and agriculture sector.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9424-PHI: Institutionalizing Capital Market Reforms

Executing Agency	:	Department of Finance
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	500.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	21 November 2017
Date Approved	:	21 November 2017

The program aims to develop the domestic capital market to provide long-term finance to support the government's infrastructure agenda. It will deepen the capital market through a series of sequenced reforms designed to: (i) further develop the government bond market; (ii) encourage growth in domestic long-term savings; and (iii) ease barriers to entry to diversify and broaden available funding sources. The outcome will be a developed deeper nonbank finance sector. The TA will support reforms specified under the program's post-program partnership framework (P3F). It will: (i) prepare government's first detailed implementation plan covering 2017–2022 to guide the stakeholders' reform priorities; and (ii) support the completion of specific key technical reforms called for in the P3F and necessary to develop a well-functioning domestic currency bond market.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9429-SRI: Capacity Development of Institutions of Jaffna Water Sector

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of City Planning and Water Supply
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	500.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	28 November 2017
Date Approved	:	28 November 2017

The project aims to improve drinking water supply in the urban areas of the Jaffna Peninsula, one of the less-developed regions of Sri Lanka. It has the following key outputs: (i) improved water supply infrastructure and service in the Jaffna Peninsula; (ii) improved headworks at Iranamadu Tank; and (iii) strengthened water resource management systems and capacity. The outcome will be improved access to safe drinking water in targeted urban areas of the Jaffna Peninsula. The project's impact will be improved health and human development in urban areas of the Jaffna Peninsula. The TA will support the capacity development of institutions of Jaffna water sector. It will also provide advisory assistance to the government in improving and strengthening the management and operation of urban water services. This will specifically include assistance to the following: (i) Ministry of City Planning and Water Supply; (ii) National Water Supply and Drainage Board; (iii) project management, coordination, and implementation unit in Jaffna; and (iv) other relevant agencies of the government. Its outputs will be: (i) capacity of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board built to monitor and manage the design build–operate contract and the desalination plant during the contract period and after contract completion; (ii) community awareness raised on water conservation, environmental protection, and hygiene practices in Jaffna and Kilinochchi; and (iii) septage management improved in Jaffna through implementation of sanitation safety plans.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9459-UZB: Power Sector Reform and Sustainability Support Program

Executing Agency	:	UzbekEnergo
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TA Amount (\$'000) : 2,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 12 December 2017
Date Approved : 12 December 2017

The project will complement and deepen ongoing sector reforms, strengthen financial management practices, and improve the corporate governance of Uzbekenergo, the largest power utility of Uzbekistan. It will: (i) increase Talimarjan thermal power plant capacity with the installation of an additional 900 megawatts combined cycle gas turbine units; (ii) improve Uzbekenergo financial operation and performance by developing a power sector master plan to rationalize long-term investments and prepare a tariff reform road map to increase Uzbekenergo's revenue; and (iii) enhance institutional capacity for the operation and maintenance of the power plant. These will result in an improved efficiency and reliability of power supply. The impact will be reliable energy supply increased and energy intensity reduced. The TA will help facilitate the implementation of the government's sector reforms and address challenges constraining Uzbekenergo's capacity to generate adequate cash for capital investments by undertaking critical analytical work to prepare a sound basis for the next generation of reforms. It will prepare the following: (i) a power sector master plan; and (ii) a tariff reform road map aiming at full cost recovery and proposing transparent measures to pass through adjustments against potential risks such as foreign exchange and inflation. The TA also aims to build Uzbekenergo's staff capacity in system planning, economic analysis, and budgeting to keep the master plan updated and relevant.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9443-REG: Strengthening Capacity to Design and Implement Water and Rural Infrastructure Facility

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 11 December 2017
Date Approved : 01 December 2017

The TA facility aims to provide project preparation support to the following projects: (i) BAN: Ganges Kobadak Irrigation Modernization Project; (ii) BAN: Rural Infrastructure Maintenance Program; (iii) BAN: Market and Value Chain Infrastructure Development Project; (iv) BHU: Bhutan Integrated Irrigated Agriculture Development Project; (v) NEP: Mechanized Irrigation Innovation Project; (vi) NEP: Preparation of Priority River Basins Flood Risk Management Project; (vii) NEP: Bagmati River Basin Improvement Project–Additional Financing; (viii) NEP: Nepal Rural Connectivity Improvement Project; and (ix) SRI: Mahaweli Water Security Investment Program. These projects involve investments in rural areas in South Asia to support inclusive growth strategy in the ADB midterm review of Strategy 2020. Continuous support to enhance skills and competencies of executing and implementing agencies are needed to improve project preparation, implementation and overall portfolio performance. Sustainable development of ADB water and rural infrastructure projects requires stronger interaction between stakeholders coupled with dedicated government capacity building in the areas of project design and implementation. The TA facility will provide project preparation support and capacity building, strengthen due diligence, and increase project readiness to these projects. It will have the following outputs: (i) well-designed water and rural infrastructure project proposals and project readiness; and (ii) improved project implementation and management capacity of executing agency.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9464-REG: Pacific Disaster Resilience Program

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 2,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 21 December 2017
Date Approved : 14 December 2017

The program will improve the resilience, including financial preparedness, of the Pacific region to disasters triggered by natural hazards. It will provide Pacific developing member countries with a source of financing for response, early recovery, and reconstruction activities for disaster events caused by all types of natural hazards. Its outputs include: (i) strengthened regional collaboration on disaster risk financing; and (ii) strengthened enabling framework for disaster risk management (DRM). The TA will support: (i) the exploration of options for a regional, collaborative, contingent financing mechanism for disasters; and (ii) priority DRM activities in participating countries and at a regional level, including expanding engagement in the program output areas, building on the policy actions achieved to access policy-based financing, and supporting the implementation of a program monitoring framework to further strengthen DRM systems. This will include advisory and capacity development support for DRM planning and governance, the mainstreaming of DRM into sector policies, support for post-disaster public financial management, support for the enhancement of disaster risk financing strategies, and disaster preparedness measures.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

(B) KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS NOT EXCEEDING \$225,000

TA 9445-AZE: Rapid Response Support for Strategic Reforms

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 14 December 2017
Date Approved : 06 December 2017

The crash in the global oil prices, reduced oil production, and the economic slowdown in Azerbaijan's major trade and investment partners during 2014–2015 dragged the country's economy into the recession. Following the end of the high oil price era, the urgency to change the structure of the economy to return to the growth trajectory, the government of Azerbaijan adopted a Strategic Roadmap on the National Economy Perspective (Roadmap) in December 2016. The Roadmap aims to attain an annual gross domestic product growth of 5% and generate additional 750,000 jobs by 2025. The Roadmap's implementation suggests the need for quick and effective support to the government in policy formulation and execution. The TA is needed to expeditiously respond to emerging policy advice and knowledge-sharing needs of the government when the intensive phase of the implementation of the Roadmap begins. It will have two key outputs: (i) inputs to strategic reforms; and (ii) government capacity strengthened through regional experiences and domestic know-how. These will result in strengthened design and implementation of strategic reforms through mainstreaming of new ideas and international best practices.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9470-BAN: SASEC Bangladesh-India Electrical Grid Interconnection

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 18 December 2017
Date Approved : 12 December 2017

Growing electricity demand coupled with increased requirements for domestic natural gas in other sectors are resulting in power shortages and dependence on expensive liquid fuel power that impacts the performance of the power utilities, business competitiveness and productivity. Bangladesh has planned several electrical interconnections with India to meet current and growing demand for electricity. While there is an agreement between government-owned utilities to supply the power purchase for the first interconnection, the remaining power purchases are commercial agreements. The TA will assess the impact of relevant policies and regulations for power purchase agreements on existing and under construction interconnections and build a business case for future interconnections. This will result in prepared framework for cross border interconnections for Bangladesh. Its impact will be increased in availability and sustainability of power supply in Bangladesh by 2021.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9477-KAZ: Establishment of the Kazakhstan Knowledge Center on Integrated Water Resources Management

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Agriculture
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	225.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	27 December 2017
Date Approved	:	11 December 2017

Kazakhstan's water sector has been incapable to attract adequate knowledge and financial resources since it declared independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991. Today, water-related infrastructures are unable to effectively serve the needs of the population in terms of drinking water supply and sanitation in rural areas as well as in a few urban areas. The country's economic diversification plans are hampered by outdated irrigation systems; and the country is struggling with climate change adaptation needs in managing floods and other natural disasters. Kazakhstan urgently needs to update its water-related knowledge and educational structure, enhance its integrated water management systems and strengthen institutional coordination to contribute to enhancing the quality of water-related services to the population, improving agriculture productivity, as well as promoting food security and mitigation efforts in response to climate change. The TA will assist in establishing the Kazakhstan Knowledge Center (Center) on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM). It will finance: (i) the preparation of a strategy, roadmap and workplan related to the creation of the Center; (ii) the delivery of a report analyzing knowledge gaps the Center is meant to fill, given the organization of IWRM functions across various institutions in Kazakhstan; and (iii) the identification and implementation of two pilot projects promoting technological enhancement in IWRM areas. The outcome will be Kazakhstan Knowledge Center on Integrated Water Resource Management under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan established. Its impact will be enhanced water-related knowledge generation and dissemination in Kazakhstan.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9444-NEP: Support for Value Chain Development under the Nepal Agriculture Development Strategy

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Agricultural Development
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	225.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	11 December 2017
Date Approved	:	05 December 2017

The Government of Nepal adopted a long-term agriculture sector strategy, the Agriculture Development Strategy 2015–2035, which aims to accelerate the sector growth through four strategic components: governance, productivity, profitable commercialization, and competitiveness. Its implementation is expected to transform the sector to benefit directly the small commercial farmers, substantially raise the productivity of the subsistence farmers, and provide employment for the landless. Meanwhile, the country began to shift to a federalized structure of government with the adoption of a new constitution in 2015, triggering discussions on restructuring of the agriculture sector. Due to some anticipated fundamental reorganizations of the agriculture sector, a wide range of implications for any future agriculture project design and implementation is expected. With this, a TA for research and development has become necessary to re-conduct project scoping for ADB's future loan and technical assistance, revising the project concept in accordance with the new loan processing schedule, and producing the basis for a

detailed project design to be developed. The outcome will be a well-informed concept of the project prepared. The TA will help Nepal achieve prosperous commercialization in agriculture sector.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9454-SRI: Supporting Delivery of Strategic Knowledge Solutions

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 18 December 2017
Date Approved : 11 December 2017

Sri Lanka needs to maintain the growth momentum to advance its status to an upper middle-income country (UMIC). The country faces many challenges as it approaches UMIC, with regards to sustaining economic growth and quality of growth. To address these challenges, policies need to be pursued that facilitate manufacturing and export diversification, increase productivity, enable Sri Lankan firms to become part of global supply chains, create productive jobs, and establish efficient social protection networks. To assist policy formulation for challenges that may emerge as Sri Lanka transcends UMIC status, the capacity of government officials should be developed in various areas. The TA aims to provide government officials with better understanding of economic corridor development and enhance government's capacity in identifying and prioritizing policies and projects that are necessary for corridor development. Its key outputs will be: (i) improved capacity of relevant government agencies in economic corridor development; (ii) review of social protection and developing agriculture value chains; and (iii) trained staff of the National Planning Department on the use of input-output tables in policy analysis. These will result in policy recommendations that support sustained growth submitted to the government. The TA is aligned with the following impact: an environment where all citizens can achieve higher incomes and better standards of living created.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9493-TAJ: Improving Urban Policy for Small and Medium Enterprises' Growth and Economic Diversification

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 10 January 2018
Date Approved : 20 December 2017

Tajikistan is one of the least well-off countries of the former Soviet Union, constrained by geographical, institutional and political challenges. The government's development priorities are to improve infrastructure for energy exports and for regional connectivity, and address socio-economic challenges by diversifying the economy and creating jobs for a young population. The government has requested assistance to promote widening of the economic base and job opportunities. The TA focuses on micro and small enterprises to support government priorities for promoting economic diversification and creating new jobs in the country. It will have the following outputs: (i) urban small-scale enterprises (SME) policy review; and (ii) strengthened government capacity and systems on integrated urban SME development policy. These outputs will result in

improved SME planning and policy. The TA is aligned with the following impact: improved urban SME diversification and competitiveness.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9479-UZB: Mortgage Market Development Program

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 22 January 2018
Date Approved : 19 December 2017

Uzbekistan is facing a growing unmet demand for housing, both in rural and urban areas. The government's fiscal resources are not sufficient and need to be supplemented through the mobilization of market-based mortgage finance products provided by commercial banks. Therefore, to address market demand, there is a need for commercial banks to play a larger role in the mortgage finance sector. However, the banking sector in the country is characterized by low mortgage finance intermediation due to limited internal capacity and lack of access to long-term funding. The TA will formulate recommendations for required reforms to strengthen the enabling environment in the real estate markets of Uzbekistan and thereby address the various gaps in the legal and regulatory environment that hamper the development of the mortgage lending in the country. Its key outputs/activities will be: (i) review of the policy, regulatory, and legal framework for the mortgage market development; (ii) draft of comprehensive housing sector strategy; and (iii) business plan for the establishment of Uzbekistan Mortgage Refinancing Company. These outputs will result in strengthened policy and regulatory environment for mortgage market development. The TA is aligned with the following impact: improved living standards for majority of population.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9486-UZB: Strengthening the Capacity in Project Management

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 02 January 2018
Date Approved : 22 December 2017

The Government of Uzbekistan has launched a few initiatives to streamline the management of public investments, particularly to improve performance of externally-funded projects. Procurement issues have been the major obstacles in implementing ADB's project and continuously affecting overall portfolio performance. The government is reviewing procedures in this area with the aim to improve procurement systems, contract management approaches and align them with international best practices. The government has requested ADB's support for capacity building in project management and monitoring and establishment of a specialized training program on project management. The TA is needed to meet the emerging advisory and capacity development needs of the government in a timely manner. Its key outputs will be: (i) analytical papers with recommendations for improved business processes and procedures in project management; (ii) improved project monitoring information; and (iii) improved project management capacity and skills. These will result in strengthened government capacity for

managing development projects. The impact will be improved governance and implementation effectiveness of development projects.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9466-REG: Strengthening Compliance Review and Accountability to Project Affected Persons of Financial Intermediaries

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 15 December 2017
Date Approved : 14 December 2017

As ADB adapts to the fast-changing development landscape of Asia and the Pacific, an increase in the number of projects using financial intermediaries (FIs) is anticipated. With the increase in the number of projects using FIs for project screening and eventual fund disbursement, ADB needs to strengthen the awareness and capacity of these institutions on compliance review to ensure that project affected people are not harmed by projects whose funds are channeled through FIs. The TA will support knowledge sharing among FIs, government agencies and private sector groups, on good practices on accountability mechanisms, which in turn is expected to improve their compliances with ADB's and their own policies and procedures, improve project quality and overall development effectiveness of the projects. It will have the following outputs: (i) compliance review, supervision and accountability knowledge sharing events; and (ii) ADB publication of good practices on compliance and accountability. The outcome will be enhanced operational understanding of compliance supervision and accountability practices. The impact will be improved development effectiveness and accountability to project affected persons.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9474-REG: Strengthening Urban Investment Planning and Project Preparation and Implementation in Central and West Asia

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 27 December 2017
Date Approved : 18 December 2017

The developing member countries (DMCs) in the Central and West Asia region continue to face large deficits in urban infrastructure and services. Their urban investments are mostly infrastructure-focused, leading to unsustainable operations of basic urban services in water supply, sanitation, solid waste management, urban transport, and flood control. To develop adequate and sustainable urban infrastructure and services, a DMC will require a carefully deliberated national sector assessment that is comprehensive and up-to-date to better plan and manage urban development that is economically competitive, equitable, climate-resilient and environment-friendly. The TA will help ensure ADB's continuous upstream sector involvement and support. It will support DMCs prepare firm investment plans which will reduce project risks, and ensure better results. The TA will have the following outputs: (i) national urban assessments prepared and aligned with the ADB's country partnership strategy cycle; (ii) strengthened project identification, formulation, preparation and implementation; and (iii) improved DMC's access to

knowledge sharing and solution. The outcome will be improved urban sector project preparation and implementation in Central and West Asia. The impact will be improved sustainable urban planning and development in Central and West Asia.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9489-REG: Capacity Building Program for Journalists in Developing Member Countries, 2018-2019

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 225.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 08 January 2018
Date Approved : 20 December 2017

Over the last 4 years, ADB, through its Department of External Relations, has conducted a knowledge-sharing and capacity-building initiative for journalists from key English-language media organizations in DMCs. The program provides them the opportunity to learn about ADB development issues firsthand and meet finance ministers, central bank governors, development partners, and private sector and civil society leaders. It also built their capacity for more in-depth coverage of sector/thematic areas connected with ADB. Given the rapidly changing development landscape and the emergence of new players, it is imperative that ADB further strengthens its brand as a thought leader on development and economic issues affecting the Asia and the Pacific region. The TA will strengthen the capacity of participating DMC reporters and editors to cover ADB and key development and economic issues facing the Asia and Pacific region. It will have the following outputs: (i) increased participation of DMC journalists in ADB annual meetings; and (ii) outreach program implemented with key regional and national media. It is expected to deliver the following outcome: improved DMC journalists' understanding and reporting of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and other development and economic issues in Asia and the Pacific region.

Status of Consulting Services : No consultant recruitment.

(C) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLUSTER SUBPROJECTS

TA 9495-TIM: Policy and Planning Development for Public Investments (Subproject 1)

Type of Technical Assistance	:	Transaction – Project Preparatory
Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Finance
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,200.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	15 January 2018
Date Approved	:	21 December 2017

Timor-Leste, as the youngest country in Asia and the Pacific, has made excellent progress in peace-building and state-building. However, its efforts to improve service delivery has been hampered by weaknesses in the systems for public investment management (PIM) and gaps in sector policies and plans. The Policy and Planning for Public Investments Project will help strengthen PIM in Timor-Leste. Subproject 1 fits the priorities of the project as it aims to build government capacity for PIM, and strengthen sector policy and planning. It will support the successful implementation of ADB's portfolio of ongoing projects and preparation of a pipeline of new investment projects. Its outcome will be improved planning, identification, implementation and management of infrastructure and infrastructure services in Timor-Leste.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9401-REG: Asian Development Outlook 2016–2018 – Asian Development Outlook 2018 (Subproject 3)

Type of Technical Assistance	:	Knowledge and Support – Research and Development
Executing Agency	:	Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,200.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	05 October 2017
Date Approved	:	06 October 2017

The cluster TA supports the preparation of the flagship publication—the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) for 3 years. This publication includes staff analyses of the macroeconomic prospects for all ADB's 45 DMCs, and provides insights into the current economic issues the region faces. Subproject 3, the last subproject, will support the preparation of the ADO 2018. It will have the following outputs: (i) ADO 2018, ADO 2018 Update and ADO supplements published; (ii) background papers published; and (iii) ADO 2018, ADO 2018 Update and ADO supplements disseminated. These outputs will result to an increased reference to the ADO by the media, by economic researchers, both within ADB and beyond, and by DMC officials. The impact will be increased understanding among ADB DMCs of current macroeconomic issues and important development challenges facing Asia and the Pacific region.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9402-REG: Developing Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches, and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries (Subproject 3)

Type of Technical Assistance	:	Knowledge and Support – Research and Development
Executing Agency	:	Asian Development Bank

TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,500.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	13 October 2017
Date Approved	:	12 October 2017

Impact evaluation (IE) is a cross-cutting theme that is relevant in all countries, sectors, and regions. Conducting IE for strategically selected interventions will help improve relevance and effectiveness of country and regional partnership strategies. Properly implemented IEs will help in the proper selection of a strategic mix of effective interventions. The cluster TA will contribute to the creation of knowledge on what works in development, how it works, and why. Subproject 3 will support the funding of additional IE studies. It has two main components: (i) the conduct of five or more IE studies initiated by the regional departments (RDs) applying various methodologies and survey instruments; and (ii) conduct of activities to enhance DMCs and ADB's capacity for conducting innovative IEs, evidence-based policy dialogue and management of knowledge generated from the IE studies. Key outputs of Subproject 3 will include: (i) IE studies by RDs adopting appropriate methodology with effective technical support; (ii) 1-3 pilot studies that apply the best practice application of IE methodology to inform current and/or future ADB operations; (iii) IE awareness-raising seminars and capacity building workshops for ADB staff and DMC stakeholders; (iv) maintaining a central IE data portal containing information on project baseline, mid-line, and end-line surveys; and (v) knowledge sharing activities (on methods, practices and lessons learned from review of methodologies and conduct of pilot studies) and publishing and disseminating of IE studies. The outcome will be the mainstreaming of impact evaluation in ADB operations. The impact will be improved development effectiveness of ADB-designed projects responsive to the development needs of DMCs.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9409-REG: Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2018–2020 – Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2019 (Subproject 2)

Type of Technical Assistance	:	Knowledge and Support – Research and Development
Executing Agency	:	Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	1,000.0
Business Opportunities Listing	:	26 October 2017
Date Approved	:	25 October 2017

The cluster TA supports the preparation of the flagship publication–Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific (KI)–for the next 3 years. The publication provides: (i) the latest comprehensive compendium and analysis of trends in economic, social, financial, and environmental indicators; (ii) unique set of reliable and accurate statistics on global value chains (GVCs); and (iii) a special report that provides in-depth, data-intensive analysis of an important policy issue. Subproject 2 will cover the KI 2019 cycle and will produce the KI 2019 publication. It will support the following: (i) preparation of background research papers; (ii) continued data collection from national, international, and ADB sources plus modernization of ADB database systems such as the statistical database system; (iii) publication of the Key Indicators, including the production of statistical tables for sustainable development goals, country and regional trends, GVCs, and special reports; and (iv) workshops for knowledge sharing and dissemination of key results and policy recommendations. The outcome will be the sustained use of KI data and analysis by DMC officials, economic researchers, civil society, and other users. The impact of the subproject will be enhanced evidence-based policy making, investment decisions, and project design in ADB's DMCs.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9473-REG: Olam International Limited: Inclusive, Sustainable, and Connected Coffee Value Chain (Subproject 1)

Type of Technical Assistance : Transaction – Capacity Development
Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 18 December 2017
Date Approved : 18 December 2017

The cluster TA is designed to complement the proposed loan to Olam International Limited (OIL) and two of its subsidiaries. It will support the expansion plan of OIL and its subsidiaries (Olam) over the 2017–2019 period and invest in Olam's midstream processing assets and permanent working capital for smallholder farmer supply in Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea, and Viet Nam. It will promote inclusive and sustainable agricultural value chains with higher local value addition in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Subproject 1 will provide capacity building support to 6,000 smallholder coffee farmers in Indonesia. It will help smallholder coffee farmers in Indonesia fully benefit from their inclusion in the coffee value chain by improving the productivity and quality of crops, and meeting international certification standards. Its key outputs include: (i) establishment of inclusive, environmentally sustainable and climate resilient coffee supply chain; and (ii) expanded smallholder coffee farmer access to information and services. Impacts are: (i) doubling of agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers through inputs, knowledge, markets, and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment; (ii) sustainable food production systems ensured and resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production implemented; and (iii) increased exports of developing countries.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9475-REG: Deepening Civil Society Engagement for Development Effectiveness – Deepening ADB–Civil Society Engagement in Selected Countries in Central and West Asia, East Asia, and the Pacific (Subproject 1)

Type of Technical Assistance : Knowledge and Support – Capacity Development
Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 400.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 03 January 2017
Date Approved : 20 December 2017

The cluster TA seeks to support ADB's corporate strategic directions and enable the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department to help the regional departments operationalize them through more constructive engagement with civil society. Subproject 1 will focus on selected countries in three ADB regional departments: East Asia Department, Central and West Asia Department, and Pacific Department. It will support a range of activities to address the external barriers, by building the knowledge and skills of government and civil society organizations (CSOs) to establish collective objectives through ADB-financed programs and projects. Its key outputs will be: (i) delivery of capacity building products and services for CSOs and government agencies on effective CSO engagement in ADB projects; (ii) dissemination of good practice on

the contribution of CSO participation to improve the quality of ADB operations; (iii) strengthened institutional linkages to facilitate increased CSO engagement; and (iv) knowledge and perspectives on ADB operations of CSO is generated. The outcome will be CSO participation in ADB operations strengthened. The impact will be delivery of inclusive development services in selected DMCs improved.

Status of Consulting Services : Consultants have been fielded.

TA 9482-REG: Selected Evaluation Studies and Outreach 2017–2019 – Selected Evaluation Studies and Outreach for 2018–2019 (Subproject 2)

Type of Technical Assistance : Knowledge and Support – Research and Development
Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 2,500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 27 November 2017
Date Approved : 20 December 2017

The cluster TA aims to fund select independent evaluations and outreach over the period 2017–2020. It aims to improve ADB strategies, policies, processes, and operations to benefit ADB's DMCs. Subproject 2 (will cover the 2018–2020 Work Program of the Independent Evaluation Department. It will have four outputs: (i) satisfactorily completed evaluation and other evaluation products; (ii) satisfactorily conducted knowledge-sharing and learning events; (iii) disseminated evaluation outreach products and services and derivative products from learning events; and (iv) improved information systems for managing and disseminating evaluation knowledge. The outcome will be ADB Board of Directors and its Development Effectiveness Committee, ADB Management and operations staff, and country agencies and stakeholders are better informed with their increased use of evaluations. The impact will be improved development effectiveness of ADB operations, policies, strategies, and business processes from evaluations under the subproject.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.

TA 9485-REG: Microfinance Risk Participation and Guarantee Program - Transaction Support for Expansion Subproject 1: Expansion Support

Type of Technical Assistance : Transaction – Capacity Development
Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Amount (\$'000) : 500.0
Business Opportunities Listing : 20 December 2017
Date Approved : 20 December 2017

In 2010, ADB approved the Microfinance Risk Participation and Guarantee Program (MFP). MFP fills a market gap by sharing risks with accredited partner financial institutions to facilitate local currency lending to the microfinance sector. Due to the program's success and increased market demand, the ADB Board of Directors removed its expiration and included it into ADB's mainstream operations in 2015. Moving forward, ADB plans to expand further in the region and support microfinance institutions (MFI) in diversifying their funding sources and product offerings to reach more of the unbanked population in Asia and the Pacific. Subproject 1 will support the following: (i) identification, evaluation and preparation of potential new MFIs to be accredited under MFP;

and (ii) identification, evaluation, structuring and preparation of capital market instruments and other guarantee/risk participation products to be guaranteed under the MFP. The outcome will be increased sustainable financial inclusions. The impact will be strengthened capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance, and financial services for all.

Status of Consulting Services : Recruitment of consultants is being processed.