

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPLETION REPORT

Division: EAOD

TA No., Country and Name			Amount Approved: \$954,000	
TA 6398-REG: A Program of Studies on the Development Experience of the People's Republic of China and India			Revised Amount: not applicable	
Executing Agency: Asian Development Bank (ADB)		Source of Funding: TASF- Others	Amount Undisbursed: \$154,127.27	Amount Utilized: \$799,872.73
TA Approval Date: 10 May 2007	TA Signing Date: not applicable	Fielding of First Consultants: 28 May 2007	TA Completion Date Original: 30 June 2008 Actual: 31 Dec 2010	
			Account Closing Date Original: 30 June 2008 Actual: 25 April 2011	

Description

The TA was intended to help the People's Republic of China (PRC) and India to implement a program of studies on their development experiences. The program consisted of (i) conduct of in-depth sector and country-level analytical studies of interest to PRC and India (Phase 1) and (ii) summary findings to draw lessons for other DMCs on the development experiences of PRC and India (Phase 2). The program has produced detailed sector studies of interest to the PRC and India for wider dissemination to policy makers and country level findings, which were published and widely disseminated to national level policy makers and academia.

Expected Impact, Outcome and Outputs.

The TA was expected to improve awareness among policy and opinion makers in the PRC and India about their respective development experience in selected sectors and areas. This was expected to lead to improved collaboration between the PRC and India on development policy issues in the selected sectors.

Delivery of Inputs and Conduct of Activities

The Ministries of Finance (MOF) of the PRC and India, in consultation with ADB, identified the Institute of Public Policy Studies (IPPS) to conduct the studies for the PRC and the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) to conduct the studies for India. A Steering Committee was formed composed of representatives from ADB, MOF PRC, MOF India, IPPS and ICRIER. An international development specialist was recruited to help the Steering Committee supervise the program of studies.

IPPS and ICRIER conducted the studies under Phase 1 of the TA. Scholars from the PRC studied India's development experience, and scholars from India studied the PRC's experience. IPPS studied India's experience in the (i) professional and higher education sector's contribution to growth; (ii) growth of information technology-based services sector; (iii) growth of internationally competitive local entrepreneurship; (iv) finance sector, capital market reforms, and the use of sophisticated financial instruments; and (v) macroeconomic management during the reform period. ICRIER studied the PRC's experience in (i) foreign direct investment-funded and export-oriented mass manufacturing; (ii) labor sector reforms; (iii) financing and implementation of infrastructure projects; (iv) state-owned enterprise reforms and restructuring; and (v) macroeconomic management during the reform period. The consultants performed their tasks satisfactorily. The Ministries of PRC and India provided satisfactory support as implementing agencies. ADB as executing agency performed satisfactorily.

ADB led Phase 2 of the TA, which focused on (i) the preparation of a summary of the findings from in-depth studies done under Phase 1 and drawing inferences for development policy in other DMCs and middle-income countries in Asia and the Pacific, (ii) dissemination of development lessons from the PRC and India in other DMCs, and (iii) the publication of TA findings.

Evaluation of Outputs and Achievement of Outcome

Scoping Workshop. The scoping workshop under the RETA was held in New Delhi on 29-30 May 2007. The workshop was attended by the TA Steering Committee members and the development specialist/staff consultant.

Inception Workshop. The TA inception work was organized in Beijing on 21-22 August 2007 which brought together all researchers to discuss their proposals in a group setting, and to form teams for future collaboration. The various views and ideas from experts and policy makers on the scope of sector studies provided practical inputs in finalizing the research proposals. The workshop also provided a venue for ADB to agree with all parties on TA implementation arrangements.

Field Work. Indian scholars conducted two field visits in PRC, in August 2007 and October 2007. PRC scholars conducted two field visits in India, in September 2007 and December 2007. Workshops were held to coincide with these visits to maximize the benefits from the interaction of IPPS and ICRIER researchers.

Mid-Term Workshop. Instead of only one planned mid-term workshop in Manila, mid-term workshops in New Delhi (29 November 2007) and Beijing (27-28 February 2008) were held to maximize the interaction with policy-makers, academia, and experts on the review of the reports.

Panel of Peer Reviewers. ADB engaged peer reviewers identified by ICRIER and IPPS by end-March 2008, and received their comments prior to the final workshops in New Delhi and Beijing.

Final Workshop. The TA final workshops were held on 11 April 2008 in New Delhi, and 15 April 2008 in Beijing. These workshops provided Indian and PRC scholars the opportunity to interact with their respective countries' policy-makers, who provided detailed comments on the initial drafts. Extensive discussions among senior policy makers provided useful inputs to authors in revising their studies.

ADB Annual Meeting Seminar. A seminar entitled, "The Dragon and the Elephant: Emerging Lessons from the People's Republic of China and India" was successfully held on 3 May 2008 during the 41st ADB Annual Meeting where key findings of this TA were presented. This included a presentation of selected sector papers: infrastructure and labor by ICRIER, and higher education and information technology by IPPS. The seminar was well received with the participation of 300 delegates. A report on the development experience of PRC and India was circulated to the Annual Meeting delegates.

Dissemination Seminar. A dissemination seminar was held on 18-19 September 2008 in Hanoi, Viet Nam. The seminar presented the key findings and recommendations of various reports to improve awareness of policymakers from other Asian countries on the development experiences of the PRC and India. The 49 participants included experienced senior officials in-charge of development policy or planning, and academics specializing in development from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

Publication. The final report was published as a book entitled, "Resurging Asian Giants: Lessons from the People's Republic of China and India." Forty copies were produced and distributed to the top management a week before the 2010 ADB Annual Meeting in Tashkent. Production and distribution of 750 copies followed.

Overall Assessment and Rating

The TA is rated successful. The TA completed all its envisaged outputs before the ADB Annual Meeting in May 2008 as envisioned in its design and monitoring framework. The final dissemination seminar was held in September 2008. The TA completion date was extended to 31 December 2010 to accommodate publication of TA output. Clearance by the ADB Publications Committee and editing took significantly longer than expected because of the need to (i) further verify, validate and update data and references; (ii) improve accuracy and clarity of some of the IPPS papers which were poorly translated from Chinese; and (iii) coordinate with more than 12 authors on editorial issues, which proved to be arduous and time consuming.

Major Lessons

Close collaboration with DMCs in the analysis of their development experiences was essential to ensure the effectiveness and meaningful results and outputs of the studies conducted. A major program of studies involving two or more DMCs required more time to complete and provision of additional period in the conduct of studies and dissemination should have been anticipated in the TA implementation plan.

Recommendations and Follow-Up Actions

The collaboration among ADB, PRC and India counterparts during TA implementation provides a platform for further collaboration and networking among policymakers of the ten participating countries. ADB will coordinate with PRC and India to address the need for further work in other areas of policymaking.

Prepared by: Jörn Brömmelhörster Designation: Principal Economist, EAOD

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