



Technical Assistance Subproject Report

PUBLIC

Project Number: 53343-003
Knowledge and Support Technical Assistance Cluster (C-KSTA)
August 2021

Subproject 2: Mainstreaming Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches, and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries

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Asian Development Bank

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
COVID-19	–	coronavirus disease
DMC	–	developing member country
ERCD	–	Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department
IE	–	impact evaluation
IEC	–	Impact Evaluation Committee
RD	–	regional department
TA	–	technical assistance
TASF	–	Technical Assistance Special Fund

NOTE

In this report, "\$" refers to United States dollars unless otherwise stated.

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KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT A GLANCE

1. Basic Data		Project Number: 53343-003
Project Name	Mainstreaming Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches, and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries	Department/Division ERCD/EREA
Nature of Activity	Capacity Development, Policy Advice, Research and Development	Executing Agency Asian Development Bank
Modality	Subproject	
Country	Regional	
2. Sector	Subsector(s)	ADB Financing (\$ million)
✓ Multisector	ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development	1.50
	Total	1.50
3. Operational Priorities		Climate Change Information
✓ Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities		GHG Reductions (tons per annum) 0.000
✓ Accelerating progress in gender equality		Climate Change impact on the Project Low
✓ Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability		ADB Financing
✓ Promoting rural development and food security		Adaptation (\$ million) 0.00
✓ Strengthening governance and institutional capacity		Mitigation (\$ million) 0.00
		Cofinancing
		Adaptation (\$ million) 0.00
		Mitigation (\$ million) 0.00
Sustainable Development Goals		Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
SDG 1.b		Some gender elements (SGE) ✓
SDG 5.c		
SDG 9.b		
SDG 10.4		
SDG 12.2		
4. Risk Categorization		Poverty Targeting
Risk Categorization does not apply		General Intervention on Poverty ✓
5. Safeguard Categorization		
Safeguard Policy Statement does not apply		
6. Financing		
Modality and Sources		Amount (\$ million)
ADB		1.50
Knowledge and Support technical assistance: Technical Assistance Special Fund		1.50
Cofinancing		0.00
None		0.00
Counterpart		0.00
None		0.00
Total		1.50
Currency of ADB Financing: US Dollar		

I. THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SUBPROJECT

A. Overall Progress of the Technical Assistance Cluster

1. On 18 December 2019, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved the knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) cluster on Mainstreaming Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries (DMCs), in the amount of \$4.5 million, financed on a grant basis under the ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-6, TASF-7, and TASF-Others).¹ Overall, the TA cluster is comprised of three subprojects, with fund allocation of \$1,500,000 for each.

2. The TA cluster is aligned with the following impact derived from Strategy 2030: development effectiveness of ADB finance and partnerships enhanced.² It will have the following outcome: consideration of evidence on the effectiveness of interventions in ADB operations and discussions informing DMC policies expanded.³ The TA cluster aims to mainstream impact evaluation (IE) to improve the development effectiveness of project and policy interventions in the ADB DMCs.⁴ It will (i) support IE studies of ADB-financed sovereign interventions or pilot interventions under consideration for finance, and (ii) increase the awareness and capacity of DMCs to carry out IE and make use of the results. Subproject 2 is part of the ADB Management approved 2021 results-based workplan of ADB's Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) and is a Corporate Priority TA.

3. **Implementation status of Subproject 1 (TA 9940).** The first subproject was approved on 19 December 2019 for \$1,500,000, with expected completion on 30 November 2024.⁵ Subproject 1 comprises two main outputs: (i) the conduct of at least five IE study phases/surveys applying various methodologies and survey instruments; and (ii) the development of IE awareness and capacity among the DMCs.

4. Under the first output, two calls for IE study proposals were made in 2020. Four study proposals were approved in the first call in January and five were approved in the second call in September, exhausting the allocated funding for Subproject 1. The studies cover a wide range of sectors, including agriculture, education, energy, social protection, and transport, and are spread across 7 countries encompassing every ADB region (Appendix 2 provides details).

5. The first subproject has made good progress in terms of developing and approving study proposals under Output 1, and the process of a two-stage expression of interest followed by competitive proposal screening has functioned effectively. Travel and mobility restrictions imposed to help control the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) have slowed field survey efforts, however. Mechanisms to ensure continuous ERCD technical input into approved studies still can be further strengthened to help facilitate progress in these challenging circumstances.

¹ ADB. 2019. *Mainstreaming Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries*. Manila. (C-TA 0045).

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

³ The design and monitoring framework is in Appendix 1.

⁴ Impact evaluation refers to empirical estimation of the causal effects of interventions and their statistical significance. This differs from other evaluation methods, such as those of the Independent Evaluation Department or self-assessment, which are mostly process evaluation about inputs, activities and outputs, or that consider outcomes/impacts qualitatively or without strict causal identification.

⁵ ADB. 2019. *Mainstreaming Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries, Subproject 1*. Manila. (TA 9940).

6. ERCD has continued to support capacity building and outreach for impact evaluation, in line with the goals of Output 2. In the period since the TA was approved, events covered topics ranging from impact evaluation of hard infrastructure, such as energy and transport to use of “big data” and machine learning, although they continue to be financially supported by the preceding TA 9402-REG, as virtual events conducted in the context of COVID-19 restrictions have been at lower cost than planned.⁶ These events have helped to stimulate submissions under Output 1. More training events on impact evaluation are planned to be undertaken in 2021 under Subproject 1. The information portal on ongoing studies is continuously being kept up-to-date and enhanced to maximize internal sharing of data and information on IE.⁷

B. Subproject Outcome

7. In accordance with the overall TA cluster, the subproject will have the following outcome: consideration of evidence on the effectiveness of interventions in ADB operations and discussions informing DMC policies expanded.⁸ The outcome will be achieved by generating more evidence through the conduct of IE and undertaking activities to improve awareness of IE techniques among key audiences in a similar manner to the first subproject.

C. Subproject Outputs, Methods, and Activities

8. The proposed Subproject 2 will comprise two main outputs similar to Subproject 1: (i) the conduct of at least five IE study phases and/or surveys applying various methodologies and survey instruments; and (ii) the development of IE awareness and capacity among the DMCs.

9. **Output 1: Impact evaluation studies conducted.** This will support the conduct of at least five IE study phases, while maintaining regional and sector balance. IE studies will be applied to ADB investments or pilot interventions for informing future ADB investments. The TA will strategically support IE studies from beginning to end, ensure that previously initiated IEs are successfully completed, and encourage nimble and low-cost approaches, especially on understudied themes. The TA may also support key phases of individual studies, with other phases financed independently.⁹ Moreover, the TA will support collaboration with leading research partners on rigorous IE analysis and publish high-quality ADB reports and research papers. It may also allocate small funds for diagnostic work to scope promising IE study possibilities and prepare proposals. Key improvements from Subproject 1 include a greater focus on studies utilizing existing or remote sensing data to ensure feasibility during mobility restrictions imposed to control outbreaks of COVID-19 and improved protocols to ensure continuous input from ERCD into approved studies.

10. **Output 2: Impact evaluation awareness and capacity enhanced.** This output will entail (i) reviewing IE methodologies and results for sectors and themes and producing synthesis knowledge products; (ii) conducting IE awareness raising and capacity building for DMC officials involved in potential and supported IEs and workshops and seminars where global research experts will be invited to share methods, practices, and lessons on IE; and (iii) improving and maintaining an IE portal to ensure that Output 1’s products are preserved and put to maximum

⁶ ADB. 2017. *Developing Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries, Subproject 3*. Manila. (TA 9402).

⁷ <https://myadb.adb.org/wps/myportal/IE>

⁸ The TA first appeared in the business opportunities section of ADB’s website on 2 August 2021.

⁹ If only the study design or baseline survey can be implemented under the TA, commitment may be required from regional departments concerned to have mid-line and/or endline surveys and/or studies undertaken in the future. Funding may come from other TAs, loan resources, counterparts, or from development partners.

use. Where possible, and relevant, project management unit stakeholders related to studies under Output 1 will be invited to events under Output 2.

11. External publications arising from the TA will be disseminated to targeted DMC officials and other relevant stakeholders in compliance with administrative order on environment, health, and safety management.¹⁰ As the nature of publications will be driven by the proposal selection decisions of the IEC, specific target audiences and accordant demands for printed publications will only be possible to determine during TA implementation and after proposal approval. Prior to undertaking any printing, the TA will determine specific target readers, estimated numbers of copies, and associated printing and freight costs, in recognition that printing of external publications is an exceptional arrangement, and that printing in excess of demand is to be avoided. Technical reports will be accompanied by other formats accessible to less technical audiences, such as policy briefs or blogs, as appropriate.

D. Subproject Cost and Financing

12. Subproject 2 is estimated to cost \$1,500,000, which will be financed on a grant basis by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-7 and TASF-Others).¹¹ The key expenditure items are listed in Appendix 3.

E. Subproject Implementation Arrangements

13. ADB will administer the TA, with ERCD responsible for its overall implementation and supervision. Oversight will be done by an Impact Evaluation Committee (IEC) established under Subproject 1 of the TA Cluster comprising representatives (one principal and one alternate)¹² from ADB's regional departments (RDs); ERCD; Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department; Strategy, Policy and Partnerships Department; and Procurement, Portfolio and Financial Management Department, and chaired by Chief Economist and Director General, ERCD¹³ and co-chaired by one of the other department members. Other departments will be invited to contribute as observers. The IEC will provide overall guidance and oversight for the TA. For Output 1, the IEC will approve all funded studies, while study conduct is a joint ERCD-RD responsibility.¹⁴ The RDs will propose candidate foci for IE and to ensure project and country stakeholder support, approvals/no-objection, and coordination between the study and project. Oversight of contracted consultants will be jointly by ERCD and RDs, wherein RDs will ensure operational relevance, and ERCD will be available, as needed, for ensuring technical quality of data collection, analysis, and knowledge products. ERCD will serve as Secretariat for the IEC.

14. To identify well-designed IE studies and allow enough selectivity to maintain regional and sector balance, the IEC will call for proposals for IE phases¹⁵ to be funded, with a deadline. Subproject 2 will conduct its call with a focus on studies that can utilize existing, administrative, or remote sensing data where possible, to help ensure feasibility in the face of restrictions on field

¹⁰ TA publications will be disseminated as electronic files by default, however, since printed external publications remain in demand for selected target readers from the DMCs and ADB project staff and management, limited printed copies may be made available.

¹¹ The \$1,500,000 allocation will be equally split between TASF-7 and TASF-Others. The use of TASF-7 funds will be in compliance with the country restrictions for those funds under regional TA.

¹² Alternate representatives will also be nominated in case the principal representatives are not available for a meeting.

¹³ The Chief Economist may delegate this role to a representative.

¹⁴ No-objection will be sought from respective governments of DMCs prior to commencing IE studies.

¹⁵ Each proposal is typically expected not to exceed approximately \$200,000 and the subproject duration. The proposal may cover one or multiple data collection rounds, such as baseline, mid-line, endline, and/or post-endline surveys, and/or analysis. Total allocation from the TA cluster for all rounds of a given study should not exceed \$500,000.

enumeration and travel enacted to control COVID-19. ERCD will offer technical support on developing proposals. Limited funds (up to \$30,000) for diagnostics and proposal preparation may be approved on a rolling basis by the IEC. Each submitted proposal will include both RD and ERCD team members and may also include staff from other departments. IEC members will select new proposals to be supported according to criteria reflecting cost-effectiveness,¹⁶ operational relevance, sectoral coverage, geographic coverage, technical rigor, feasibility,¹⁷ and contribution to knowledge gaps. Gender differentiated analysis will be encouraged. ERCD will provide technical appraisal to inform IEC funding approval.¹⁸ Key intermediate IE elements, including inception reports, survey instruments and sampling designs; and data cleaning, preparation, and analysis scripts will be submitted to the TA Secretariat for archiving in a data repository system managed by ERCD. As part of this process, consulting teams contracted to undertake studies will be expected to report more regularly at key IE stages back to ERCD, as per Appendix 4 to obtain ERCD input. To facilitate data quality assurance, data collection will be via use of computer assisted interviewing whenever feasible. Table 1 provides the summary of the TA implementation arrangements.

Table 1. Implementation Arrangements of Subproject 2

Aspects	Arrangements		
Indicative implementation period	August 2021–September 2025		
Executing agency	ADB		
Implementing agency	ERCD will implement Subproject 2 in collaboration with regional departments and the IEC.		
Consultants ^a	To be selected and engaged by ADB		
	Firm selection: CQS/QCBS/LCB/SSS/FBS	IE firms	\$474,900
	Individual: Framework agreement and/or individual selection ^a	International (48 PM)	\$426,300
		National (92 PM)	\$206,792
Procurement	To be procured by ADB		
	RFQ/LCB	Goods, IT equipment, data, and software	\$ 17,000
	RFQ/LCB/Open advertisement	Data/surveys	\$200,000 ^b
Disbursement	Disbursement of TA resources will follow ADB's <i>Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook</i> (2020, as amended from time to time).		
Asset turnover or disposal arrangement upon TA completion	Assets purchased under the TA will be disposed of in accordance with PAI 5.09		

ADB = Asian Development Bank, CQS = Consultants' Qualifications Selection, ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, FBS = Fixed-Budget Selection, IE = impact evaluation, IEC = impact evaluation committee, LCB = limited competitive bidding, PAI = project administration instructions, PM = person-month, QCBS = quality and cost-based selection, RFQ = Request for Quotation, SSS = single source selection, TA = technical assistance.

^a Consulting services for firm and individuals are indicative, as this will be driven by the resource needs of the IE studies to be approved by the IEC. Individual consulting services will consider both modality under the Framework Agreement and individual consultant selection. Individual consulting will use output-based contract, lumpsum, or time-based as appropriate to the requirement of the IE studies. For illustrative purposes, this table has been prepared under the assumption that half of the IE person-months, travel, and survey costs under Output 1 are contracted to firms and half

¹⁶ The TA encourages proposals for mid- or endline surveys, especially ones with baseline surveys that were funded by the previous subproject of the TA cluster.

¹⁷ Feasibility will refer to appraisal of various risks to study success, as well as the expected study duration, with preference for faster studies with fewer implementation risks, such as those possible using existing datasets, which may be generated from "big data," machine learning, and/or remote sensing.

¹⁸ This will be by other ERCD staff or consultants than those in the team proposing the study to avoid conflicts of interest. Those involved in preparing/implementing specific proposals will also abstain from voting on such proposals.

are contracted via separate individual consultant contracts supplemented by nonconsulting services. The actual proportion depends on studies approved.

^b Part of the estimated cost for data and surveys may be appropriated to consultants, firms, or external service providers for the conduct of surveys.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

15. **Consulting services.** Each of the IE studies will require a team of consultants, both international and national, to be engaged separately.¹⁹ The consultants will (i) provide technical guidance and feedback on the initial IE concept, (ii) develop the design of the IE studies together with the ADB team, (iii) assist in guiding and overseeing the implementation of IE studies, (iv) assist in survey and sampling design, (v) implement the surveys, and (vi) assist in data analysis and report preparation. In addition, other consultants will need to backstop activities beyond the individual studies (including Output 2, as well as overall support to Output 1), by supporting outreach, helping to monitor and improve IE efforts by the study teams, ensuring that ADB knowledge products are generated from studies, preparing synthesis reports, and contributing to capacity building.

16. Consequently, the TA will require the services of a mix of individual consultants and firms. Requisite fields of expertise and cost estimates of consulting services in Table 1 are indicative, and to be finalized upon selection and approval of IE proposals by the IEC. Support beyond individual IE studies by international IE experts and editors and national research associates, project coordinators, and layout artists will be through individual consulting and nonconsulting services. The precise composition of firms and individual consultants for IE studies funded under Output 1 will depend on the proposals approved by the IEC. Some studies may contract specific roles through individual consultant selection or framework agreements, supplemented by nonconsulting services for data. Others may be contracted to firms via selection methods defined based on the resource needs of the IE studies. Purchase of goods, data and IT equipment within consulting contracts will be allowed if justified to be cost-effective and approved by ADB. Subject to approval of the Procurement, Portfolio, and Financial Management Department for contract amounts higher than \$100,000, single source selection will be utilized when the proposed engagement is a continuation of previously initiated work and/or there is only one firm with capacity to deliver the proposed IE tasks. The consultants will be engaged in accordance with the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and its associated project administration instructions and/or staff instructions.

17. **ADB's procurement.** Procurement will follow the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time). Nonconsulting services for separately contracted data collection will be procured using open advertisement, limited competitive bidding, request for quotation, or single source selection. Procurement of equipment will take place in coordination with ADB's Information Technology Department and Corporate Services Department. When the TA is completed, any procured equipment will remain ADB property and/or will be disposed of in accordance with relevant ADB guidelines. Disbursements under the TA will be made in accordance with ADB's *Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook* (2020, as amended from time to time).

¹⁹ The outline Terms of Reference for Consultants are in Appendix 5.

SUBPROJECT DESIGN AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Impacts the TA is Aligned with:			
Development effectiveness of ADB finance and partnerships enhanced ^a			
Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Consideration of evidence on the effectiveness of interventions in ADB operations and discussions informing DMC policies expanded^b</p>	<p>a. By end of 2025, at least 5 ADB projects were informed by the process of conducting new IE study phases and/or new IE findings.</p> <p>(2021 Baseline: 0 projects)</p>	<p>a. Concept papers, reports and recommendations of the President of subsequent investments to those evaluated</p> <p>b. Economic analyses of subsequent investments to those evaluated</p> <p>c. Project completion reports of evaluated investments</p> <p>d. Back-to-office reports from IE events</p> <p>e. Updates submitted to the IEC</p> <p>f. External citations and downloads of IE publications</p>	<p>Subsequent investments and policies may not have sufficient continuity or appropriate timing to apply findings from previous IEs.</p> <p>Other pressure and interests may override the influence of evidence on projects and policies.</p> <p>Study results may not have sufficient external validity or sufficiently certain findings to inform interventions in other contexts.</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Impact evaluation studies conducted</p>	<p>By the end of 2025:</p> <p>1a. 5 new IE study phases, applying appropriate methodologies conducted</p> <p>(2021 baseline: 0 new IE phases)</p> <p>1b. 3 new IE papers and/or reports published</p> <p>(2021 Baseline: 0 new papers)</p>	<p>1a. Reports to IEC and summary reports by consultants</p> <p>1b. TA performance reports, published papers and reports on ADB website</p>	<p>Theories of change and plans for project rollout may not be well enough defined to design and implement the IE study.</p> <p>Coordination may not be maintained between the study team and project over long periods.</p> <p>Project rollout may not follow plans after the IE is designed, so that sampling coverage of treated and comparison groups is insufficient at endline.</p>

Results Chain	Performance Indicators with Targets and Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks
2. Impact evaluation awareness and capacity enhanced	<p>2a. At least one new review or synthesis of IE tools or results on specific sectors conducted</p> <p>(2021 Baseline: 0 new reviews)</p> <p>2b. Three new workshops, seminars, and/or conferences on IE results and methodologies held for at least 117 stakeholders (of whom 45% are women, and 70% of those surveyed report improved awareness</p> <p>(2021 Baseline: 0 new events)</p> <p>2c. Central IE database and/or information repository updated at least once a month</p> <p>Subproject 1: 47 updates^c (Baseline: 0 post third quarter 2021 updates)</p>	<p>2a. Publications on the ADB website</p> <p>2b. Post event surveys, reports to IEC and back-to-office reports</p> <p>2c. IE portal in ADB intranet and its changelog</p>	<p>Field activities, including data collection, may be impeded by restrictions imposed to control COVID-19.</p> <p>Availability of participants in workshops and seminars may be limited by other workload</p>
<p>Key Activities with Milestones</p> <p>1. <u>Impact evaluation studies conducted</u></p> <p>1.1 Screen and select projects for IE studies (August 2021–December 2022).</p> <p>1.2 Engage consultants (August 2021–August 2025).</p> <p>1.3 Prepare inception reports (December 2021–July 2022).</p> <p>1.4 Conduct of IE studies (January 2022–September 2025).</p> <p>1.5 Publish IE studies (January 2022–September 2025).</p> <p>1.6 Disseminate reports (January 2022–September 2025).</p> <p>2. <u>Impact evaluation awareness and capacity enhanced</u></p> <p>2.1 Conduct technical workshops in DMCs (December 2021–August 2025).</p> <p>2.2 Conduct regional conference on IE (December 2023).</p> <p>2.3 Conduct seminars at ADB (August 2021–September 2025).</p> <p>2.4. Prepare synthesis reports (January 2022–June 2025).</p> <p>TA Management Activities</p> <p>Recruit consultants (August 2021–September 2025).</p>			
<p>Inputs</p> <p>ADB: \$ 750,000 from TASF-7 and \$750,000 from TASF-Others.^d</p>			

ADB = Asian Development Bank, COVID-19 = coronavirus disease, DMC = developing member countries, IE = impact evaluation, IEC = Impact Evaluation Committee, TA = technical assistance.

Contribution to Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities. This TA will contribute results to any of the following, depending on which studies are approved, as they can be on many different types of interventions, sectors, and effects.

OP 1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities

OP 2: Gender equality and women's empowerment

OP 3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience and enhancing environmental sustainability

OP 5: Rural development and food security

OP 6: Strengthening Governance and Institutional Capacity

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

^b IE has three main outcome pathways: (1) direct pathway of study findings informing the design of similar subsequent projects; (2) process pathway of interaction between the IE and project teams leading to improvements prior to any findings; and (3) broader conceptual pathway in which findings inform other research and discussions to influence policies in a range of contexts and countries. The third pathway is often the most important over the long term but is also difficult to track or predict in the short term, so it has no direct target.

^c Based on five key sets of reporting per funded study (inception report, sampling plan, questionnaire, raw data, and data analysis/preparation scripts), study reports/papers, updates on each study twice per year, quarterly financial updates, workshops, and synthesis reports.

^d Use of TASf-7 funds will be in compliance with the country restrictions for those funds under regional TA.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

IMPACT EVALUATION STUDIES SUPPORTED UNDER SUBPROJECT 1

Title	Description	Study phases supported	Type of impact evaluation	Funding amount from Subproject 1	Status as of June 2021
BHU: Student Mentoring and Parental Awareness Program on Demand for TVET	The study examines the determinants of career choices and evaluates the effectiveness of interventions designed to help career decisions, improve match-quality between students and schools, and bring the best matched students to TVET career paths.	Baseline and follow-up surveys.	Cluster randomized controlled trial	\$220,000	Firm for baseline survey was recruited. The impact evaluation will use video for awareness raising and video production firm selection is ongoing.
IND: Maharashtra Rural Connectivity Improvement Project (Additional Financing)	The study evaluates the effectiveness of improved road connectivity in leading to changes in (i) the socioeconomic conditions of farmers and other households, and (ii) higher agricultural productivity and reduced food losses in agricultural value chain. Disaggregated evaluations of effects on women and other socially vulnerable groups are also being conducted.	Baseline survey	Quasi-experimental: difference in differences	\$100,000	Draft survey questions were prepared. Field survey will be conducted after the COVID-19 situation improves.
IND: Endline Evaluation of Improved Electricity Supply and Access	The study assesses (i) whether feed separation led to improved electricity supply and access (IESA) of households especially women-headed households; (ii) whether IESA led to discernable changes in the socioeconomic conditions of households, especially women; (iii) differential impacts on household members (e.g., decreased time of women for household chores, increased study for children).	Endline survey plus analysis	Quasi-experimental: difference in differences	\$133,455	Inception report completed. Endline survey ongoing.

MON: Pilot Models to Improve School Dormitory Environment and Services	The study measures the effects of physical dormitory upgrade, dormitory staff training, or parental involvement. Results of the study will contribute to the refinement of nationally replicable models to improve school dormitory environment, and the development of comprehensive standards for physical dormitory environment and services.	Endline survey and analysis	Quasi-experimental: difference in differences	\$120,000	Since 2020, schools and dormitories have remained closed due to COVID-19 pandemic. The team plans to carry out the endline survey in the first half of 2022.
NEP and IND: Impact Evaluation of Smart Metering	The study assesses the impact of smart metering on service quality, loss reduction, billing efficiency and change in consumer behavior, as well as the spill-over effects on household non-electricity consumption, state expenditures and overall consumer welfare.	Baseline and endline surveys and analysis		\$180,000	International, local, and firm consultants that will conduct the survey have been contracted. Baseline survey was expected to be completed in April 2021, however due to COVID-19 lockdown measures in Nepal, it has been delayed.
PAK: Enhancing Technology-Based Agriculture and Marketing Pilot Project in Rural Punjab	The IE study gathers data and information relevant to the target farm households with or without the proposed interventions in the target area. Results of the study will be used to formulate and design priority investment programs to ensure Punjab's economic and financial viability and envisage socioeconomic benefit.	Endline survey plus analysis	Cluster randomized controlled trial	\$100,000	The endline survey will start in third quarter of 2021 as it will cover target crops' harvest season. Consultant recruitment to start soon.
PHI: DOLE Graduation Pilot Program	The IE will evaluate the effectiveness of the Graduation Pilot Program in improving the welfare of the poor by conducting research activities related to data management and analysis after the data collection for the endline survey is completed	Endline analysis	Cluster randomized controlled trial	\$24,669	Consultants have been recruited. The endline survey is planned for the third quarter of 2021.

PHI: EdTech Solutions and Radio-Based Instruction for Last Mile Schools in COVID-19.	The study will evaluate the effectiveness of distance education modalities in terms of learning continuity and students learning outcomes focusing on LAN-based and radio-based instructions during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.	Baseline, midline, endline surveys plus analysis	Matched cluster pair randomized controlled trial	\$180,000	Randomization of treatment assignment has been designed and agreed with government stakeholders. Consultants to undertake the study have been identified.
TON: Load Shifting and Disconnection	The IE will study the load shifting and disconnection programs of the Tonga Power Limited (TPL) that are directly related to energy production and consumption behavior and environmentally sustainable development and affect the decision-making process of customers.	Baseline and follow-up surveys and analysis	Randomized controlled trial	\$225,000	Due to travel restrictions associated with COVID-19, the IE study has yet to be initiated.

BHU = Bhutan, COVID-19 = coronavirus disease, IE = impact evaluation, IND = India, MON = Mongolia, NEP = Nepal, PAK = Pakistan, PHI = Philippines, TON = Tonga, TVET = technical and vocational education and training.

SUBPROJECT COST ESTIMATES AND FINANCING PLAN^a
(\$'000)

Item	Amount
Asian Development Bank^b	
1. Consultants	
a. Remuneration and per diem	
i. International consultants	547.8
ii. National consultants	228.5
b. Out of pocket expenses	
i. International and local travel	114.7
ii. Data and surveys ^c	200.0
iii. Goods and equipment (rental or purchase)	17.0
2. Goods and equipment (rental or purchase) ^d	17.0
3. Data and surveys ^c	200.0
4. Printing and publications ^e	15.0
5. Training, seminars, workshops, forum, and conferences ^f	70.0
6. Miscellaneous administration and support costs ^g	15.0
7. Contingencies	75.0
Total	1,500.0

^a The cost estimates and financing plan are indicative as resource allocation across items is driven by resource needs of each proposed activity, and will be determined upon the approval of the Impact Evaluation Committee.

^b Subproject 2 will be financed under TASF-7 (\$750,000) and TASF-Others (\$750,000). Use of TASF-7 funds will be in compliance with the country restrictions for those funds under regional TA.

^c Includes the conduct of surveys or purchase of data.

^d Includes information technology equipment, data and software. Procurement of equipment by ADB will be in accordance with ADB's Procurement Guidelines (2017, as amended from time to time). Upon completion of the TA, any procured equipment will either remain with ADB property or will be disposed in accordance with PAI 5.09.

^e Includes publication and dissemination costs.

^f Includes international and national travel and per diem for workshop participants, costs of external resource persons and peer reviewers for workshops and related activities, and support travel of ADB staff as resource persons.

^g Includes cost of communications, translations, supplies, shipping and mailing, processing of approvals and permits.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

KEY CONSULTANT OUTPUTS/MILESTONES TO BE SHARED WITH ERCD VIA ERCD STUDY TEAM MEMBER FOR STUDIES FUNDED UNDER OUTPUT 1

1. Consultant selection

- Submission of draft TOR for review and notification of non-standard intellectual property and publication clauses
- Participation in competitive selection process, where feasible

2. A. Draft inception report (to be submitted in time to accept feedback)

- Summary of major changes from proposal
- Description of focal interventions
- Status/timeline of interventions
- Theory of change for the interventions
- Hypotheses/outcomes to be tested
- What the comparison/control group will be
- The basis of assignment into treatment
- The unit of assignment into treatment
- Numbers of units of assignment and observation expected per treatment arm
- Methodology intended for causal identification
- Data sources and collection intended
- Sample power calculations
- Timeline for survey round and overall study
- Process for engagement of PMU, broader government, ADB and other key stakeholders
- Status of necessary approvals/no-objection
- Final team composition and responsibilities
- Updated budget projections
- Ethical concerns
- Variation in the baseline population that can be analyzed for research (if baseline survey)
- Expected publications from survey round and from overall impact evaluation

B. Revised inception report (only if major revisions needed)

3. A. Draft sampling plan (to be submitted prior to sampling)

- Population of interest
- Geographic coverage of survey
- Types of surveys to be conducted (e.g., household, village, facility, etc.)
- Other data sources to be used, frequency and resolution
- Final sample power calculations, considering expected treatment effect, clustering at the unit of assignment, rates of compliance, and attrition
- Listing approach/source
- Eligibility criteria
- Stratification and sampling approach
- Replacement approach
- Randomization protocol, if applicable

- Timeline

B. Revised sampling plan *(only if major revisions needed)*

4. A. Draft survey instruments and data collection plan *(to be submitted prior to data collection)*

- Survey team composition
- Means of survey administration (e.g., software package, PAPI, etc.)
- All surveys and survey modules
- Survey manual
- Description of enumerator training process
- Anticipated challenges in enumeration
- Survey oversight in the field, including spot check protocols
- Back check protocols
- High frequency check protocols
- Other survey validation processes

B. Revised survey instruments and data collection plan *(only if major revisions needed)*

5. Initial survey data and report

- Observations on survey process, data quality assurance, and validation
- Documented dta files for collected data
- Annotated do files for data preparation, cleaning, visualization, and analysis
- Balance tests on key variables (if baseline)
- Checks for data representativeness against other statistical/administrative sources
- Treated and untreated observations and cluster numbers and overview of compliance and attrition (if non baseline)
- Initial cross-sectional analysis (if baseline) or preliminary impact estimates
- Plans for further analysis
- Plans to maintain stakeholder engagement between survey rounds
- Outreach and publication plans

6. Draft final paper/report

- Draft report
- Do files
- Dta files (if updated)

7. Final paper/report

- Final report
- Comments matrix
- Final do files
- Final dta files (if updated)

LIST OF LINKED DOCUMENTS

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/LinkedDocs/?id=53343-003-TARreport>

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANTS

1. The precise composition of impact evaluation study teams and their contracting as firms or individual consultants will depend on the proposals competitively selected under Output 1 for financing. For this reason, the TOR and person-months of the international impact evaluation specialists, impact evaluation survey specialists, impact evaluation analysts, and national impact evaluation specialists may be contracted via individual consultant contracts or within firm contracts.

A. International Consulting Services

2. **Impact evaluation specialists** (12 person-months, intermittent). The international impact evaluation specialists should have strong expertise and experience in impact evaluation of interventions and a good understanding of the sector of the evaluation in developing member countries (DMCs) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). They will design the evaluation, guide and oversee its implementation, and produce high-quality deliverables. Specifically, the specialists will:

- (i) conduct a review of project materials to refine the theory of change of the focal intervention, in coordination with the project team;
- (ii) conduct a literature review with assistance from the national impact evaluation specialists and or impact evaluation analysts;
- (iii) prepare an inception report that includes a description of the intervention to be evaluated, evaluation questions, evaluation design, sampling design, sample power calculations, and other information requested by the project team;
- (iv) identify and access existing data sources with assistance from the national specialists;
- (v) design survey instruments and guide the national specialists and survey team in the conduct of surveys;
- (vi) guide data preparation and cleaning, and follow-up on data issues observed;
- (vii) mitigate threats to the internal and external validity of the study and ensure coordination with project implementation;
- (viii) conduct empirical analysis of patterns observed in the surveys and/or effects of the intervention;
- (ix) prepare a final report with details of the impact evaluation survey or study, highlighting lessons learned and recommendations for future operations; and
- (x) assist in disseminating the evaluation findings through academic publications, policy briefs, and/or seminars and workshops.

3. **Impact evaluation survey specialists/field coordinators** (15 person-months, intermittent) Drawing on experience designing survey instruments and data quality assurance processes in multiple countries, the consultant will provide critical inputs into data collection efforts.

- (i) in coordination with impact evaluation specialists/analysts prepare draft survey instruments and manuals to ensure that all variables are captured with sufficient detail, precision, accuracy, and for appropriate reporting/recall periods;
- (ii) participate in piloting and pretesting survey instruments and guide revisions necessary to improve survey performance;

- (iii) translate paper versions of questionnaires into computer assisted interviewing platforms, and develop skip logic, data entry and cross validation rules/conditions to ensure data quality;
- (iv) develop survey reporting and tracking mechanisms, as well as automated high frequency data checks to flag problematic entries and enumerator error patterns;
- (v) develop protocols for backchecks and spotchecks to validate data and ensure fidelity of survey conduct;
- (vi) contribute to enumerator training;
- (vii) liaise with the survey team to help resolve enumeration problems;
- (viii) prepare a final report with observations and summarization of the survey process and key variables; and
- (ix) ensure that data, metadata, and data collection instruments are made available and archived in a documented, accessible format.

4. **Impact evaluation analysts** (12 person-months, intermittent) The impact evaluation analyses should have strong knowledge of econometric techniques and software, such as Stata. They will work to provide quality data preparation, analysis, and background research.

- (i) Assemble, prepare, and integrate datasets from modules and rounds of impact evaluation surveys;
- (ii) Clean data, identify omissions, outliers, and implausible observations, and propose rectifications and follow-up, as needed.
- (iii) Prepare summary statistics, balance tables, and data visualizations.
- (iv) Utilize econometric techniques for causal inference, applying recent methodological innovations where appropriate.
- (v) Perform background literature review and interpretation, as needed.
- (vi) Ensure that all data preparation, cleaning, and analysis scripts are documented, organized, explained, and that all work is replicable.

5. **Impact evaluation experts** (12 person-months, intermittent). The international impact evaluation experts should have strong expertise and experience in impact evaluation of public interventions and a good understanding of at least one major sector of ADB investments in DMCs. They will assist the Technical Assistance Supervising Unit (TASU) in backstopping TA activities, including knowledge sharing, impact evaluation study conduct, the generation of synthesis products, and capacity building. Specifically, the experts will

- (i) Share evidence from impact evaluations during knowledge and consultation events, help stakeholders to identify key questions and behavioral uncertainties regarding interventions in the sector of expertise, and provide suggestions to backstop the design of pilots to enable systematic testing of the effectiveness of innovations of interest to DMC policymakers and ADB;
- (ii) Perform due diligence on impact evaluation opportunities and scope the feasibility of impact evaluation concepts identified by the TASU;
- (iii) Contribute to the TASU technical evaluation of impact evaluation proposals, inception reports, sampling designs, survey forms, data quality assurance protocols, data preparation, cleaning and analysis scripts, metadata, datasets, reports, and analyses prepared during funded impact evaluation studies;
- (iv) Work to transform consultant outputs produced under individual impact evaluation proposals into ADB knowledge products by reprocessing and reanalyzing submitted data, improving prior data analysis, and enhancing report quality and relevance to ADB stakeholders;
- (v) Prepare impact evaluation reviews and syntheses on selected sectors/theme that characterize theories of change pertaining to the sector, key questions that impact

- evaluation can answer, methodological opportunities, patterns of evidence to date, and evidence and methodological gaps for future studies to address;
- (vi) Design training materials and delivery capacity building for ADB's DMC officials covering common experimental and non-experimental methods of impact evaluation, their respective merits and drawbacks, and circumstances where they are applicable; and
 - (vii) Contribute to blogs, briefs, and other knowledge outputs that help to raise the profile and awareness of impact evaluation within ADB and DMCs.

6. **Copy editor and proofreader** (4 person-months, intermittent). The copy editor will ensure that the outputs under this TA adhere to ADB style and usage and conform to high publication standards. The consultant should have expertise in copy editing and desktop publishing, and preferably have extensive experience in similar assignments involving preparation of economic publications.

- (i) Perform edits to enhance the readability of draft knowledge products and ensure that tone matches intended audiences;
- (ii) Coordinate with knowledge product authors to ensure that edits maintain intended messages and retain accuracy of presentation;
- (iii) Correct references and data sources as needed, and ensure that all sources are adequately cited;
- (iv) Ensure compliance of knowledge products with ADB Handbook of Style and Usage and related requirements; and
- (v) Proofread documents for typographical errors and inconsistencies introduced during the layout process.

B. National Consulting Services

7. **National impact evaluation specialists** (8 person-months, intermittent). The national impact evaluation specialists should have sufficient expertise and experience in survey design and implementation and good knowledge of the project sector and of impact evaluation methodologies and application. Guided by the international impact evaluation specialists, they will assist in survey design, implement the surveys, and assist in data analysis and report preparation. Specifically, the specialists will:

- (i) assist the international specialists in literature review and in identifying and accessing existing data sources;
- (ii) assist the international specialists in developing the impact evaluation framework and action plan;
- (iii) conduct pretests of survey instruments and assist the international specialists in improving the survey design;
- (iv) guide the survey team and implement surveys for data collection;
- (v) coordinate between the international specialists, project team, and executing agencies;
- (vi) assist the international specialists in data analysis and report preparation; and
- (vii) participate in and contribute to the dissemination activities.

8. **Project coordinator** (18 person-months, intermittent). The project coordinator should have sufficient experience in coordinating research projects. Specifically, the project coordinator will:

- (i) follow-up and update the TA project team and the Impact Evaluation Committee with progress of the evaluation study;
- (ii) prepare periodic reports on project progress, as requested;

- (iii) monitor budget utilization by regional departments;
- (iv) design, maintain, and update the study websites;
- (v) consolidate TA reports as needed;
- (vi) coordinate events related to the project; and
- (vi) perform other related tasks as may be assigned by relevant ADB staff.

9. **Research Associates** (30 person-months, intermittent). The research assistants should be familiar with the impact evaluation literature and have experience in data processing and analysis. Under the guidance of the impact evaluation specialists, the research assistants will:

- (i) collect, clean, process, and analyze data;
- (ii) assist in preparing presentations, reports, and other publications;
- (iii) support study team in conduct of training events, workshops and seminars; and
- (iv) provide inputs to the study website.

10. **Graphic Designer and Layout Specialist** (6 person-months, intermittent). The consultant must be skilled in working with Adobe InDesign, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel. The consultants will typeset and proofread the text, tables, charts, and all graphic elements of the publication from the preliminary draft to the final copy and produce the high-resolution PDF file before forwarding to the external printer (including refining its web version). In particular, the consultant will:

- (i) assist in design of the report cover;
- (ii) layout the manuscript;
- (iii) reformat tables and charts;
- (iv) encode corrections in the main text based on corrections received from editor and ADB staff;
- (v) prepare final layout of manuscript;
- (vi) encode final text and graphical corrections;
- (vii) deliver the web-ready and print quality-checked consolidated files for publication; and
- (viii) perform other related tasks as may be assigned by relevant ADB staff.