

**MONTHLY REPORT ON SMALL-SCALE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS  
NOT EXCEEDING \$150,000 PER PROJECT  
March 2001**

**1. Pilot Testing of Rural Savings and Credit Unions, Uzbekistan**

**Executing Agency** : Central Bank of Uzbekistan (CBU)  
**TA Type** : Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : Not listed<sup>a</sup>  
**Date Approved** : 05 March 2001

**Project Description** :

The goal of the TA is to develop a nationwide savings and credit union (SCU) system. The purpose is to pilot test SCUs and legislation and regulation, policies and procedures and supervisory arrangements for SCUs. The TA will (i) promote and establish up to three pilot SCUs; (ii) train officials and staff of the SCUs on SCU organization, operations and financial management, and the duties and responsibilities of the Board, Credit Committee, Audit Committee and management; (iii) train CBU staff in supervision of SCUs; (iv) supervise the implementation of the legal and regulatory framework and recommend any improvements; (v) supervise the implementation of the SCU operational policies and procedures and recommend any improvements; and (vi) establish and operate a pilot regulatory unit in the CBU.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Direct selection of consultants was approved by Management.

**2. Participatory Assessment of Poverty, Thailand**

**Executing Agency** : National Economic and Social Development Board  
**TA Type** : Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : Not listed<sup>a</sup>  
**Date Approved** : 05 March 2001

**Project Description** :

The TA will examine the types and degrees of poverty currently existing in Thailand, changes in poverty trends and causes of poverty by establishing a linkage between the nationwide household survey data with the perceptions of the poor through a participatory poverty assessment (PPA). The PPA using a qualitative research approach, aims to provide first hand field data to substantiate and refine the quantitative poverty reduction assessment currently undertaken under TA 3373 for assisting the Government in formulating appropriate policies and measures of poverty. The TA will contribute a more holistic analysis on the multi-dimensional nature of poverty.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Recruitment of consultants is ongoing.

**3. Independent Review of the Samut Prakarn Wastewater Management, Thailand**

**Executing Agency** : Pollution Control Department  
**TA Type** : Advisory and Operational  
**TA Amount (\$'000)** : 150.0  
**ADBBO Listing** : Not listed<sup>a</sup>  
**Date Approved** : 12 March 2001

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<sup>a</sup> Waiver to publish in ADB Business Opportunities approved by Management.

**Project Description :**

The objectives of the TA are to (i) review the project, mainly its environmental, ecological and public health aspects, and comment on the initiatives taken to date, and (ii) provide guidance and recommendations for further action, as required. The scope of work will comprise: (i) study of all project documentation in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of all the issues involved and the history of key events; (ii) development of an approach and methodology as well as a work plan for the conduct of the review; (iii) review of all aspects of the Project, including its environmental, aquatic, ecological, and health impacts, and the draft Environmental Management Plan, in accordance with the approach and methodology developed and the workplan laid out under (ii); (iv) consultation with all stakeholders; (v) overall assessment of the Project based on the review under (iii) and consultation under (iv); (vi) conducting a participatory workshop to discuss/present the review findings; and (vii) preparation of the final report on the review, including the overall assessment mentioned at (v), and participation in briefings to the media, where necessary.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Consultants were selected.

**4. Supporting Access to Justice under the Local Government Plan, Pakistan**

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Ministry of Law, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Advisory and Operational
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	Not listed <sup>a</sup>
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	19 March 2001

**Project Description :**

The objectives of the TA will be to supplement *TA 3433-PAK: Strengthening of Institutional Capacity for Judicial and Legal Reform* to address the priorities of the Local Government Plan 2000 (the Plan) for delivery of justice at the doorstep. The TA will have three components: (a) a rapid assessment of judicial capacity and dispute resolution mechanisms needs at the local level in light of the political and administrative devolution under the Plan; (b) an assessment of the judicial capacity and needs for dispute resolution mechanisms must be followed by the design of a resources plan indicating how finances and other resources may be raised to satisfy the needs identified under component (a); and (c) resources and implementation plans for new and existing institutional/judicial capacity enhancement under the devolution plan, and for the development of institutional capacity at the local level.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Direct selection of consultants was approved by Management.

**5. Development of a RETA Home Page, Phase II, Regional**

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Asian Development Bank
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Others
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	98.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	27 November 2000
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	13 March 2001

**Project Description :**

The objective of the Project is to finalize the RETA Home Page by further refining the intranet portion, adding new relevant sections to the home page, and connecting it to the ADB's main website. The intranet portion of the RETA Home Page will be tested extensively through

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operation and further revision, as necessary. The testing will focus on ease-of-use, smooth connection to other pertinent sites, and relevance of content. Web-casting of conferences, seminars and workshops will be added to the Home page for pilot testing. Also, a set of courseware will be developed under the Project, and uploaded to the Home Page as part of the capacity building exercise. This web-based training will be tested for its effectiveness. After consolidation, the RETA Home Page will be connected to ADB's main website in consultation with the Office of External Relations.

**Status of Consulting Services:** A consultant was selected.

## 6. **Second Asia-Europe Meeting Seminar on Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures, Regional**

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Asian Development Bank
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Conference
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	Not listed <sup>a</sup>
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	13 March 2001

### **Project Description :**

The Seminar will facilitate a dialogue between private business and Customs authorities with the end of establishing a cooperation framework for cooperation on measures for simplification and harmonization of customs procedures and for good governance in customs. It will provide: (a) the ASEM Customs administration, with feedback from business and trading sectors; (b) the business representatives, with fuller understanding of the efforts of ASEM Customs administrations towards trade facilitation; and (c) both parties, with knowledge of trade and economic prospects, and with information on the Bank's activities in assisting improvements in customs administration. The two-day seminar will be held in Bangkok, Thailand on 24-25 April 2001.

**Status of Consulting Services:** No consultant is required.

## 7. **Support to the Sixth International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, Regional**

<b>Executing Agency</b>	:	Asian Development Bank
<b>TA Type</b>	:	Conference
<b>TA Amount (\$'000)</b>	:	150.0
<b>ADBBO Listing</b>	:	16 October 2000
<b>Date Approved</b>	:	30 March 2001

### **Project Description :**

The objectives of the TA are to (i) develop greater awareness of HIV/AIDS challenges and support advocacy for increasing investments for HIV/AIDS programs in GMS countries; (ii) highlight the need for a multisectoral approach in responding to HIV/AIDS epidemic in GMS countries; and (iii) facilitate exchange of information about successful strategies for preventing HIV/AIDS and care.

**Status of Consulting Services:** No action has been taken to recruit consultants.

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