

**MONTHLY REPORT ON SMALL-SCALE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS
NOT EXCEEDING \$150,000 PER PROJECT
December 1999**

1. Independent Monitoring of Assistance for the Provision of Clean Water in West Timor, Indonesia

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 20 October 1999
Date Approved : 02 December 1999

Project Description :

The TA will independently monitor in the field the implementation of the ADB's emergency assistance for the development and rehabilitation of the clean water supply system in West Timor. The monitoring will include verification of the appropriateness of the selection of locations where facilities under the assistance will be provided, the appropriateness and efficiency of their use, and the adequacy of the implementation of the assistance.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of consultants is underway.

2. Community Participation in Urban Environmental Improvement, India

Executing Agency : Ministry of Urban Development
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 12 November 1999
Date Approved : 03 December 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to strengthen the capability of urban environmental improvement project planners and urban managers to integrate public participation in planning, implementation and maintenance of urban environmental improvement projects. The TA will build on experience with ADB assisted projects in Ajmer and Jaipur in the State of Rajasthan and Calcutta in the State of West Bengal. Since these project cities are in many ways comparable to other Indian cities where economic growth has stimulated urbanization, the participation processes to be applied would serve as useful examples for replication in other ADB interventions in India. The TA will also recommend an institutional framework to enable local government units to integrate community awareness and participatory approaches in their routine operations. A video film documenting the process of consultation and field situation will be an important and integral part of this project.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment and selection of consultants underway.

3. Capacity Building in Imprest Accounts Monitoring, Sri Lanka

Executing Agency : Ministry of Finance and Planning
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 80.0
ADBBO Listing : Not listed^a
Date Approved : 08 December 1999

^a Waiver to publish in ADB Business Opportunities approved by Management.

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to assist the Government to establish the Guidelines and Procedures and a monitoring system for the First Generation Imprest Account/Second Generation Imprest Account/Third Generation Imprest Account with the ultimate aim to strengthen the internal control and to improve the utilization of ADB's Imprest funds as well as project implementation.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of consultants is underway.

4. Partnership Agreement on Poverty Reduction between the ADB and the Government of Bangladesh, Bangladesh

Executing Agency : Economic Relations Division
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 95.0
ADBBO Listing : Not listed^a
Date Approved : 14 December 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to support the implementation of the ADB's poverty reduction strategy in Bangladesh. To achieve this objective, the TA will include the following major activities:

- (i) Finalization of a Poverty Analysis Paper by an Experts Group in consultation with Bank staff and the Government. The study will comprehensively examine the constraints and opportunities for poverty reduction: the nature, intensity and spread of poverty; the distributional effects of macroeconomic and sectoral policies; public expenditure; relevant Government programs and institutions; and specific problems and requirements of different poverty subgroups.
- (ii) Assistance for the Government in organizing a Public Forum to discuss the findings and recommendations of the Poverty Analysis Paper, and draw implications for a strategy of poverty reduction in Bangladesh, as well as the Bank's own operations in Bangladesh.
- (iii) Based on the outcome of the Poverty Study and Public Forum, preparation of a draft Partnership Agreement for Poverty Reduction between the Government of Bangladesh and the Bank.
- (iv) Finalization and signing of the Poverty Reduction Partnership Agreement.

Status of Consulting Services: No consultant is required.

5. Basic Social Services Sector Development Program, Fed. States of Micronesia

Executing Agency : Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs
TA Type : Project Preparatory
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 12 May 1999
Date Approved : 16 December 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to assist the government in preparing the Basic Social Services Sector Development Program. The states departments of health and education have been informed of their expected inputs in the SDP preparation, which will be coordinated by the National Health, Education and Social Affairs Department. The scope of the TA includes: (i) estimating and prioritizing the needs for additional investments in the health and education sectors; (ii) preparing

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the policy recommendations to enhance the basic social services; (iii) designing effective basic social service delivery systems through the participation of communities; and (iv) addressing the financing issues of the health and education sectors, in view of the expected reductions in external grants made under the Compact funding. A detailed examination of issues and options in health and education financing, health and education sectors management and capacity building needs and quality of service requirements will be undertaken.

Status of Consulting Services: Recruitment of consultants is underway.

6. Partnership Agreement on Poverty Reduction between the ADB and the Government of Nepal, Nepal

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Finance
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	125.0
ADBBO Listing	:	Not listed*
Date Approved	:	22 December 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to support the implementation of ADB's poverty reduction strategy in Nepal. To achieve this objective, the TA will include the following major activities: (i) prepare a detailed poverty situation analysis which will comprehensively (a) review available literature on poverty and analyze the causes, nature, intensity and spread of poverty; (b) examine existing Government policies and their effectiveness; and (c) examine the constraints and opportunities for poverty reduction; (ii) assist the Government in organizing a series of high-level Public forums – participants in the forums will discuss the findings and recommendations of the poverty situation analysis and draw implications for a poverty reduction strategy in Nepal, as well as the ADB's own operations in the country; (iii) based on the outcome of the poverty situation analysis, including stakeholder input from the Public Forums, prepare a Poverty Reduction Strategy for Nepal and suggest any revisions to the Country Operational Strategy necessary to harmonize the implementation of the operational strategy with the poverty strategy; and (iv) prepare a draft Poverty Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the ADB, and arrange for the finalization of the Agreement based on discussions between the Government and the ADB.

Status of Consulting Services: Consultants have been recruited.

7. Assessment of Regional and School Management Structure and Capacity for Senior Secondary Education, Uzbekistan

Executing Agency	:	Center for Senior Secondary Education (CSSE)
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	Not listed
Date Approved	:	26 December 1999

Project Description :

Objectives of the TA are to: (i) review and analyze the current senior secondary education (SSE) planning and management structures and capacity at oblast and school levels; (ii) confirm understandings and acceptance at oblast CSSE, Hokimiyat, and schools of the National Program for Personnel Training goals and their respective responsibilities; (iii) review and analyze horizontal and vertical coordination mechanisms within the SSE planning and management structure; (iv) identify duplications and gaps, if any, in the planning and management structures and capacity; (v)

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examine the match between the expected responsibilities and existing staffing at oblast and school levels, and assess initial training needs; and (vi) recommend actions for increased efficiency and effectiveness of the SSE management at the local level.

Status of Consulting Services: Direct selection of consultants approved.

8. Establishing a Focal Point for Financial Sector Reforms, Nepal

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Finance (MoF)
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	07 October 1999
Date Approved	:	27 December 1999

Project Description :

The TA will improve coordination and continuity of financial sector reforms, with particular emphasis in the nonbank financial institution subsector. It will help MoF to fulfill its changing role in the finance sector. The TA will help ensure the incentives of the various reform efforts are compatible and that the reforms are properly sequenced. The advisory unit will ensure a more effective, better-timed implementation of reforms through improved information flows among key actors. The unit will provide the basis for a fully functioning policy analysis cell within the MoF.

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

9. Preparation of Action and Investment Plans for the Central Region Development Strategy, Viet Nam

Executing Agency	:	Ministry of Planning and Investment
TA Type	:	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	Not listed ^a
Date Approved	:	23 December 1999

Project Description

The primary objective of the TA is to facilitate the alignment of five-year 2001-2005 planning for the Central Region with the agreed Development Strategy, in order to promote environmentally sustainable development and poverty reduction in this disadvantaged area of the country. The objectives of the TA are an extension of those for TA 2959-VIE, namely to assist the Government: (i) to reorient its approach to development and poverty reduction from a concentrated growth strategy to a strategy of dispersed growth that is better balanced regionally and between rural and urban areas; (ii) to shift from a command economy approach with detailed physical planning at the regional level to a more indirect approach where State intervention is restricted to policy reforms, institution building, and key public investments that are necessary to create an enabling environment for market-based regional development; and (iii) to create capacity within Government to sustain this modified approach to development, in particular the capacity to prepare market based regional development strategies.

Status of Consulting Services: Direct selection of consultants approved.

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10. Rebasing and Linking National Accounts Series, Regional

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Research
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 13 January 2000
Date Approved : 08 December 1999

Project Description :

The main objectives are: (a) to help the DMCs that have breaks (more than one base year) in their constant prices national accounts series compile a continuously linked series and (b) to provide a forum for the DMCs to discuss ways and means to more frequently rebase their national accounts estimates.

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

11. A Survey of Nongovernment Organization Capacity Building Needs in Pacific DMCs, Regional

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Others
Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 06 September 1999
Date Approved : 22 December 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to execute a survey of capacity building needs for NGOs in selected Pacific DMCs to (i) identify priority capacity building needs of Pacific NGOs in the context of emerging developmental circumstances in Pacific countries, especially with regard to strengthening the role of NGOs in poverty reduction efforts, and (ii) identify specific capacity building initiatives that could in the future be taken up to satisfy needs identified. In addition to surveying NGO capacity building needs, the TA will work to establish donor coordination and cooperation in Pacific NGO capacity building.

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

12. Third ADB-NGO Consultative Meeting on Environment and Sustainable Development, Regional

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Conference
Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 06 September 1999
Date Approved : 23 December 1999

Project Description :

The TA will establish an institutionalized framework for consultation with environmental NGOs on issues related to environmental protection and sustainable development and poverty reduction through environmental sustainability. The TA will pursue consultation with environmental NGOs as a part of mainstreaming NGO consultations into ADB operations. Consultations under the TA will address current priority issues in environment and sustainable development, such as poverty reduction through environmental sustainability, as well as ADB's operational experience and experience in cooperation and collaboration with governments and NGOs in environment-

related activities. Through consultations, the TA will work to identify a priority plan of action with regard to environment and sustainable development as well as identify new modalities for cooperation involving ADB, NGOs, and governments. Aspects such as modalities for expanded NGO consultation and participation in ADB's operations, policy reform, and mitigation of negative impacts of development interventions will be addressed. The plan of action and new modalities identified would be applied to ADB's operations as well as to be disseminated publicly as information resource.

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

13. First Meeting of the Private Sector Forum on Economic Cooperation in the Eastern South Asia Subregion, Regional

Executing Agencies	:	Asian Development Bank
TA Type	:	Conference
Amount (\$'000)	:	30.0
ADBBO Listing	:	Not listed ^a
Date Approved	:	23 December 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to support a private sector-led initiative for economic cooperation in the Eastern South Asia Subregion, consisting of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and eleven eastern states of India. ADB assistance would support two specific activities: (i) a preliminary meeting of the Steering Committee in New Delhi in January 2000 to plan and endorse the preparation of the Private Sector Forum meeting; and (ii) the Private Sector Forum meeting in Calcutta in March 2000.

Status of Consulting Services: No consultant required.

14. Prospects and Benefits of Economic Cooperation in Eastern South Asia Subregion, Regional

Executing Agencies	:	Asian Development Bank
TA Type	:	Research
Amount (\$'000)	:	150.0
ADBBO Listing	:	09 February 1999
Date Approved	:	29 December 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to enhance the prospects for subregional cooperation in the Eastern South Asia Subregion (ESAS). This will be achieved by: (i) preparing high quality research papers that will examine the prospects for and benefits of economic cooperation in ESAS in selected sectors; (ii) examining the experience of subregional cooperation in other areas and drawing the relevant lessons for subregional cooperation in South Asia; and (iii) identifying the economic and non-economic factors that have influenced the slow progress of subregional cooperation in ESAS.

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

^a Waiver to publish in ADB Business Opportunities approved.