

**MONTHLY REPORT ON SMALL-SCALE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS  
NOT EXCEEDING \$150,000 PER PROJECT  
May 2000**

**1. Accounting Review of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB), Sri Lanka**

Executing Agency	Office of the Auditor General
TA Type	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	100.0
ADBBO Listing	Not listed <sup>a</sup>
Date Approved	10 May 2000

**Project Description**

The overall objective of this TA is to diagnose problems and recommend solutions that will lead to the sound financial management and accounting of monies in NWSDB. The more specific objectives will be (i) to assess and advise on professional accounting staff adequacy and competency; and (ii) to assess and advise on financial and accounting procedures and practices in NWSDB.

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

**2. Microfinance, East Timor**

Executing Agency	United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
TA Type	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	150.0
ADBBO Listing	08 March 2000
Date Approved	10 May 2000

**Project Description**

The objectives of the TA are to assess and initiate community-based opportunities for income generation and poverty reduction through (i) detailed assessment of the supply and demand for credit requirements for project beneficiaries for investments in productive activities; (ii) the preliminary rehabilitation of existing credit unions through institutional strengthening; and (iii) detailed assessment of options for development of the microfinance sector in East Timor, including the feasibility of establishing a microfinance bank.

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

**3. Fiji Development Bank Review, Fiji Islands**

Executing Agency	Ministry of Finance
TA Type	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	150.0
ADBBO Listing	14 January 2000
Date Approved	10 May 2000

**Project Description**

The objectives of the TA are to evaluate the efficiency of ongoing Fiji Development Bank (FDB) performance, procedures, identify the operational obstacles, provide recommendations for its improvement in the future to best match with the Government development perspectives, to

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

make FDB financially self-sustainable and function well while observing the sound banking practices. More specifically, the TA will: (i) provide an overall review of FDB present activities and recommend possible changes; (ii) identify its operational obstacles in terms of funding resources; (iii) analyze its credit and profitability status; (iv) review FDB Act and other legal documents; and (v) provide recommendation on strategic development plan for its future activities which meet the Government objectives.

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

#### 4. Preparation of the Locust Management Project, Kazakhstan

Executing Agency	Department of Plant Protection and Quarantine of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)
TA Type	Project Preparatory
TA Amount (\$'000)	100.0
ADBBO Listing	24 April 2000
Date Approved	19 May 2000

##### Project Description

The immediate objective of the TA is to complete the preparation of a Project which will support the Government's development and implementation of a more effective, environmentally sound locust control program beginning in the 2001 crop year. A secondary objective is to promote the refinement and effective implementation of MOA's longer-run strategy for locust management in order to contribute to a sustainable capacity for preventing such emergencies in the future. The TA's scope will include: (i) field surveys of local locust control facilities, practices, and institutional capacities in a sample of severely affected oblasts; (ii) community consultations to ascertain existing knowledge, attitudes, and practices in regard to locust control; (iii) analysis of technological alternatives for locust control, including their relative costs, benefits, and environmental implications; and (iv) preparation of the detailed Project implementation plans, cost estimates, financing arrangements, and environmental monitoring and institutional development requirements.

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

#### 5. Poverty Assessment and Analysis, Bhutan

Executing Agency	Planning Commission Secretariat
TA Type	Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000)	100.0
ADBBO Listing	04 April 2000
Date Approved	19 May 2000

##### Project Description

The TA will be the first study explicitly focusing on poverty in the country. The study aims to assist the Government in (i) preparing a Poverty Analysis including a Poverty Profile, Responses to Poverty to Date and Poverty Reduction Options based on existing though limited data and information at both national and local levels; (ii) undertaking consultation with stakeholders on the Poverty Analysis; (iii) providing inputs to the High-Level Forum; and (iv) establishing a Partnership Agreement with ADB.

**Status of Consulting Services:** Consultants have been shortlisted.

**6. Establishing a Public Private Joint Venture for the West Bengal North-South Economic Corridor Development, India**

Executing Agency	Chief Secretary's Office
TA Type	Advisory and Operational
Amount (\$'000)	150.0
ADBBO Listing	23 May 2000
Date Approved	25 May 2000

**Project Description**

The TA will assist the Government of West Bengal in the establishment of the institutional prerequisites for building a relationship based on trust between the public and private sectors for the overall purpose of developing the economic corridor. This is necessary to ensure that sufficient high-level project management skills are in place from 2000 onwards to oversee and expedite all aspects of the investment implementation process.

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

**7. Study of Funding Options for Agricultural Research in the People's Republic of China**

Executing Agency	Ministry of Agriculture
TA Type	Advisory and Operational
Amount (\$'000)	150.0
ADBBO Listing	02 February 2000
Date Approved	25 May 2000

**Project Description**

The objective of the TA is to assist the Government in maintaining the social focus of agricultural research during the move to commercialization. Towards this end, the TA will identify research that requires public funding versus that which can be commercialized, provide recommendations on the types and forms of public funding necessary to maintain a strong agricultural research system, and identify the role of foreign assistance in the agricultural research system with specific recommendations for ADB's potential partnership with the Government in this endeavor.

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

**8. Decentralized Health Services, Indonesia**

Executing Agencies	Ministry of Health
TA Type	Project Preparatory
Amount (\$'000)	150.0
ADBBO Listing	22 February 2000
Date Approved	26 May 2000

**Project Description**

The TA will support preparation of the Decentralized Health Services Project. The objectives of the TA are to identify strengths and weaknesses, at the central level and in selected provinces, to decentralization of health services according to Government policy and regulations; and to help develop a strategic plan to support the decentralization process. Specifically, TA resources will be used to (i) collect, summarize and analyze information and data related to health services decentralization and identify critical shortages and needs; (ii) help prepare implementation plans and strategies to efficiently decentralize health services in selected provinces; and (iii) assist selected provinces to identify local resources and local needs with beneficiaries participation, and

prepare a local plan of action for decentralized health services. Several aspects need to be considered: laws and regulations; systems and procedures; economic and financial resources for health services; health services management and financing (including integrated health planning and budgeting); human resources for decentralized health services; participation of the community and the civil society; accountability and transparency; and benefit monitoring and evaluation.

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

**9. Ninth International Congress of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, Regional**

Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank
TA Type	Conference
Amount (\$'000)	50.0
ADBBO Listing	Not listed
Date Approved	11 May 2000

**Project Description**

The TA will contribute to the promotion of regional cooperation and will be a catalyst for the dissemination of information, knowledge and experience in health among DMC public health associations, consistent with the Bank's strategic framework. A main theme of the Ninth Congress is poverty alleviation. Given ADB emphasis on poverty reduction, this Congress would be an excellent opportunity to publicize ADB's commitment to, and strategy for, poverty reduction.

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

**10. Establishment of Backbone Telecommunications Networks Project-Phase 1, Regional**

Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank
TA Type	Study
Amount (\$'000)	150.0
ADBBO Listing	18 April 2000
Date Approved	17 May 2000

**Project Description**

The objective of the TA is to prepare a project to improve intraregional telecommunications linkages within the GMS countries. The TA will be designed to ensure that those components proven to be technically, financially, and economically feasible and environmentally sound are incorporated in the Project. The TA will also assess possible environmental and social impacts.

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