

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

1. Support for Y2K Compliance, Nauru

Executing Agency : Ministry of Finance
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 100.0
ADBBO Listing : 23 August 1999
Date Approved : 12 November 1999

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to make the systems and applications run by the Computer Bureau under the Department of Finance of the Republic of Nauru Y2K compliant. The scope of the TA will include (i) rectification of as many software systems as possible based on their "mission critical" priority ranking prior to 31 December 1999; (ii) provision of contingency plans for applications that remain noncompliant beyond 15 December 1999; (iii) continuation of rectification work beyond 31 December 1999 to make all systems and applications Y2K compliant no later than February 2000; and (iv) provision of an assessment of future hardware/software requirements as appropriate.

Status of Consulting Services: Direct recruitment has been authorized and consultants have been shortlisted.

2. Developing the Strategy for the ADB's Involvement in Cambodia's Power Sector, Cambodia

Executing Agency : Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 09 August 1999
Date Approved : 16 November 1999

Project Description

The objective of the TA is to develop a road map for the ADB's contribution to Cambodia's power sector and establish the basis for planning the ADB's capacity building and capital investment support for the sector covering the period 2000-2007. The TA consists of the following primary tasks: (i) assess the power sector's institution building and investment needs spanning the period 2000-2007; (ii) develop a financing plan to address the sector's prioritized investment and capacity building requirements; and (iii) recommend a strategic direction and approach for the ADB's contribution to Cambodia's power sector, propose priority areas for the ADB's investment and capacity building support, and identify reforms to be sought by the ADB in its involvement.

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

3. Agriculture and Fisheries Sector Review, Vanuatu

Executing Agency : Department of Agriculture
TA Type : Advisory and Operational
TA Amount (\$'000) : 145.0
ADBBO Listing : 19 March 1999
Date Approved : 26 November 1999

Project Description :

The objectives of the TA are: (i) identify Vanuatu's comparative advantages for export of agriculture commodities, (ii) identify the changes required in policy and services provided to catalyze increased agriculture sector output and productivity, and (iii) identify opportunities for private sector investment in the sector. The scope of the sector review comprises both an analytical and diagnostic exercise as well as a consultative one with involvement of concerned Government departments, private sector, traditional chiefs, and community heads. It will be divided into two phases. Phase I will examine current data on production, productivity, export, etc. and assess current constraints and opportunities in the sector. These conclusions will be discussed at the end of Phase I with concerned stakeholders. Phase II will comprise development of options and related strategy for policy and service improvement for catalyzing private sector investment.

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

4. Agriculture and Rural Sector, Indonesia

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|---------------------------|---|---|
| Executing Agency | : | Bureau of Planning in the Ministry of Agriculture |
| TA Type | : | Project Preparatory |
| TA Amount (\$'000) | : | 150.0 |
| ADBBO Listing | : | 18 November 1999 ^a |
| Date Approved | : | 29 November 1999 |

Project Description

The objective of the TA is to prepare a feasibility study for a sector project (the Project) designed to reduce poverty by raising real incomes in rural areas. Raising incomes on a sustainable basis must involve productivity gains but these in turn depend on the availability of inputs, infrastructure (social and physical), information and a suitable institutional framework. The ensuing Project will develop the approach, through initial focus on three provinces in Sulawesi, before widening the intervention into other provinces in the future.

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

5. Microfinance and Employment, Papua New Guinea

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|---------------------------|---|--|
| Executing Agency | : | Department of National Planning and Monitoring |
| TA Type | : | Project Preparatory |
| TA Amount (\$'000) | : | 150.0 |
| ADBBO Listing | : | 09 April 1999 |
| Date Approved | : | 29 November 1999 |

Project Description :

The objective of the TA is to assist the government in preparing a Microfinance and Employment Project (the Project) for ADB financing. The focus of the proposed Project is to develop a government policy on microfinance and enhance the institutional capacity of selected providers of microfinance services with the view to increasing the accessibility of financial services for micro and small enterprises and the population at large. This will contribute to the overall long-term development objective of employment creation through private sector development.

Status of Consulting Services: Shortlisting of consultants has been completed.

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

6. External Forum on Gender and Development, Regional

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Conference
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 02 March 1999
Date Approved : 19 November 1999

Project Description :

The primary objective of the TA is to establish a Gender Forum (GF) to establish regular dialogue between the ADB and external groups on gender and development issues. The scope of the RETA includes the establishment of the GF and support for the preparation and conduct of at least two GF meetings at approximately eight-month intervals. The GF Meetings will be held at the ADB headquarters in Manila for three to five days.

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

7. Strengthening and Collection of Financial and Monetary Statistics in Selected DMCs, Regional

Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
TA Type : Others
TA Amount (\$'000) : 150.0
ADBBO Listing : 04 June 1999
Date Approved : 29 November 1999

Project Description :

The main objective of the TA is to strengthen the institutional capacity of central banks (CBs) of the selected DMCs by helping: a) identify the new demands for monetary and financial statistics raised by the crisis; b) specify a set of key financial and monetary indicators that can be used to monitor the asset and financial markets; c) produce these additional statistics and indicators; and d) disseminate these through print and electronic media. Furthermore, the TA will attempt to improve the timeliness of the availability of existing and the above new statistics and indicators to ADB from CBs. Eventually, these statistics will be integrated into ADB's statistical database system and published in ADB's website, thereby making them widely and easily accessible to users.

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