Tajikistan’s economic growth had been robust in the 2 decades leading to 2019, averaging 7.6%, before the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic cut the growth to 4.5% in 2020. In 2021, growth rebounded to a reported 9.2%. To promote sustainability, the country requires more private investment and efficient allocation and rationalization of public finance through structural reforms. More jobs must be created and labor productivity must be enhanced by developing human capital. Regional cooperation and trade is also critical to overcoming the limitations of Tajikistan’s geography. Responding to climate change is another important issue, given Tajikistan’s vulnerability to natural hazards.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has partnered with Tajikistan since 1998 and is now the country’s largest multilateral development partner. Under the bank’s country partnership strategy for 2021-2025, ADB operations in Tajikistan pursue three strategic priorities—supporting structural reforms to enhance resource allocation and mobilization, improving labor productivity through human capital development, and fostering better livelihoods through investment in a land-linked economy.

To date, ADB has committed 146 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totaling $2.2 billion to Tajikistan. Cumulative loan and grant disbursements to Tajikistan amount to $1.58 billion. These were financed by concessional ordinary capital resources, the Asian Development Fund, and other special funds. ADB’s ongoing sovereign portfolio in Tajikistan includes 3 loans and 21 grants worth $943.2 million.

### Tajikistan: 2021 Commitments ($ million)\(^a\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Type</th>
<th>Sovereign</th>
<th>Nonsovereign</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>COVID-19 Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assistance(^c)</td>
<td>7.25</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>7.68</td>
<td>0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program(^a)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>1.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>62.25</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>64.27</td>
<td>26.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Grants and TA include ADB-administered cofinancing.
\(^c\) Financing for TA projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific DMCs where breakdown is available.

### Tajikistan: Cumulative Commitments\(^a,b,c,d\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Total Amount ($)</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>COVID-19 Response ($ million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project and Technical Assistance</td>
<td>175,225.75</td>
<td>99.20</td>
<td>80.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development</td>
<td>40,238.56</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>12,75.38</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>3.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>22,594.83</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>26.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>15,103.47</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>10,72.42</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>72.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry and Trade</td>
<td>256.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and Communication Technology</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisector</td>
<td>7,53.83</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Sector Management</td>
<td>23,256.41</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>11.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>33,780.61</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>34.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services</td>
<td>7,56.81</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program(^f)</td>
<td>147,18.15</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>78,9.87</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry and Trade</td>
<td>69,8.28</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>322,2,275.90</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>82.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Grants and TA include ADB-administered cofinancing.
\(^b\) Includes loans, grants, TA, and private sector programs.
\(^c\) Using primary sector in the reporting of commitments.
\(^d\) From 2020, financing for TA projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific DMCs where breakdown is available.
\(^f\) ADB-financed commitments from private sector programs of which $9.28 million is short term (with maturity of less than 365 days).
In 2020 and 2021, ADB assisted the country to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, including budget support to strengthen the health system, expand social assistance for poor and vulnerable groups, ensure food security, and safeguard small businesses. ADB also delivered urgent medical supplies and personal protective equipment for health care staff.

In 2021, over 3.3 million doses of ADB-funded COVID-19 vaccines with safety boxes and syringes were delivered to Tajikistan and transported to health facilities around the country. ADB also provided capacity building for staff at the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population to strengthen the vaccination program and gender- and age-sensitive outreach and training.

In 2021, ADB approved a $30 million grant for Tajikistan to modernize the Yovon irrigation and drainage system in the lower Vakhsh river basin, which will boost agricultural productivity and women’s participation in land and water management.

Nonsovereign operations. Total outstanding balances and undisbursed commitments of ADB’s nonsovereign transactions in Tajikistan as of 31 December 2021 was $1.55 million representing 0.01% of ADB’s total private sector portfolio.

Operational challenges. As of 31 December 2021, the implementation of 13 out of 17 ADB projects were on track, but the COVID-19 pandemic posed a challenge in project implementation—highlighting the critical role of the resident mission. Challenges also remain in project design and ownership, and in securing resources for maintenance of rehabilitated facilities. To address these issues, ADB and the Government of Tajikistan are working to improve quality-at-entry for projects, enhancing procurement and disbursement capacities, strengthening country processes, and promoting financial sustainability of investments.

**KNOWLEDGE WORK**

ADB knowledge support for Tajikistan is aligned with the country partnership strategy’s focus areas—offering solutions for market-based transition of economic activities, the creation of competitive markets, private sector development, and inclusive growth. In 2021, ADB produced the Tajikistan Transport Sector Assessment and the Climate Risk Country Profile for Tajikistan. An impact evaluation of various ADB interventions for maternal and child health is underway. ADB aims to support an up-to-date sector assessment of general secondary education and a national urban assessment to guide investments for urban development. In addition, ADB assists in enhancing a road asset management system and road safety measures to ensure safety and reliability.
FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Financing partnerships enable ADB’s partner governments or their agencies, multilateral institutions, and private organizations to participate in ADB projects. The additional funds may be in the form of loans and grants, technical assistance, and nonsovereign cofinancing.

Cumulative cofinancing commitments in Tajikistan:

- Sovereign cofinancing: $330.77 million for 23 investment projects and $20.4 million for 21 technical assistance projects since 2000
- Nonsovereign cofinancing: $11.69 million for 1 investment project since 2004

A summary of projects with cofinancing from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2021 is available at www.adb.org/countries/tajikistan/cofinancing.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Under the country partnership strategy 2021-2025, ADB will support structural reforms to attract more foreign and domestic private investors. To improve labor productivity, ADB will continue to support education and market-relevant skills development and strengthen health services and social protection. To enhance livelihoods and food security, ADB will support agricultural production and natural resources management, improve urban services in Dushanbe and secondary cities, tap Tajikistan’s tourism potential, and develop roads connecting rural and urban areas with neighboring countries. ADB will also address climate change and promote gender equality and regional cooperation and integration in its operations, while developing its private sector operations.
ADB AT A GLANCE

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. It has 68 members—of which 49 are from Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside. ADB headquarters is in Manila, Philippines and has 43 offices around the world, with 3,693 staff from 65 of its members as of 31 December 2021.

ADB maximizes the development impact of its assistance to its developing members by providing financing and tailored knowledge solutions through policy dialogue and advisory services, among others. It mobilizes financial resources through cofinancing from official, commercial, and export credit sources.

ADB pivoted swiftly to answer the needs of its developing members and will remain agile and responsive in the years ahead. It has started to see the shoots of a green recovery, but the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, and the outbreak of conflicts still threaten lives and prosperity. ADB will continue to work closely with members and development partners through these challenges to achieve a better future for all in Asia and the Pacific.

ADB operations. In 2021, ADB committed $22.8 billion in loans, grants, equity investments, private sector programs, and technical assistance both to the public and private sectors of its borrowing members. ADB bolstered its total support with cofinancing of $12.9 billion.

As of 31 December 2021, ADB’s cumulative commitments in 45 countries stood at $342 billion covering 4,061 loans, $11.7 billion in 521 grants, and $5.2 billion in technical assistance grants, including regional technical assistance grants.

In addition to loans, grants, and technical assistance, ADB uses guarantees and equity investments to help its developing member countries.

Total commitments in nonsovereign loans and equity investments from ADB’s own funds in 2021 amounted to $1.2 billion for 35 transactions in economic and social infrastructure, finance sector, and agribusiness.

In 2021, ADB mobilized $1.7 billion of long-term project cofinancing and $5.8 billion of cofinancing through its Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program and Microfinance Program. Total outstanding balances and undisbursed commitments of nonsovereign transactions funded by ADB’s own resources stood at $14 billion as of 31 December 2021.

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Total sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 2021

• $12.93 billion for 187 projects, of which:
  » $12.38 billion, 75 investment projects,
  » $134.67 million, 110 technical assistance projects,
  » $422.87 million transaction advisory services for 2 projects.

Cumulative sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 1970–2021

• $140.43 billion for 3,165 projects, of which:
  » $136.6 billion, 1,098 investment projects,
  » $2.8 billion, 2,061 technical assistance projects,
  » $1.07 billion transaction advisory services for 6 projects.

PROCUREMENT

ADB’s Procurement Contracts, 2021

Goods, Works, and Related Services

ADB’s procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for goods, works, and related services under loan and grant operations:

• $22.93 billion in 2020
• $15.6 billion in 2021
• $232.16 billion covering 225,336 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

Consulting Services

ADB’s procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for consulting services under loan, grant, and technical assistance operations:

• $730.78 million in 2020
• $697.03 million in 2021
• $14.86 billion covering 71,348 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

MORE ABOUT TAJIKISTAN AND ADB

Shareholding and Voting Power

Number of shares held: 30,402 (0.29% of total shares)
Votes: 69,516 (0.52% of total membership, 0.8% of total regional membership)

*Overall capital subscription: $425.5 million
*Paid-in capital subscription: $21.33 million

*United States dollar figures are valued at rate as of 31 December 2021.

ADB Governor: Davlatali S. Said
ADB Alternate Governor: Sadi Qodirzoda
ADB Director: Sameer Kumar Khare (India)
ADB Alternate Director: Md. Azizul Alam (Bangladesh)

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Useful ADB websites
Asian Development Bank
www.adb.org

Annual Report
www.adb.org/documents/series/adb-annual-reports
Asian Development Outlook
www.adb.org/publications/series/asian-development-outlook

ADB Data Library
data.adb.org

Notes: (i) Figures are estimated by ADB unless otherwise stated.
(ii) $ refers to United States dollars.
(iii) Data are updated as of 31 December 2021 unless otherwise indicated.