Tajikistan’s economic growth expanded by an estimated 8% in 2022 and the national poverty rate fell to 22.5%. However, as a relatively small, open, oil-importing economy, Tajikistan remains vulnerable to external shocks. The economic base needs to be broadened and diversified and the quality of growth improved. Resilient growth requires more private investment and efficient allocation of public finance by advancing structural reforms. More jobs are required, and labor productivity needs to be enhanced. Responding to climate change is critical given Tajikistan’s vulnerability to natural hazards. Regional cooperation is also important to overcome the limitations of Tajikistan’s geography.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has partnered with Tajikistan since 1998. Under the bank’s country partnership strategy, 2021-2025, ADB operations 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 155 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totaling $2.4 billion to Tajikistan. Cumulative loan and grant disbursements to Tajikistan amount to $1.8 billion. These were financed by concessional ordinary capital resources, the Asian Development Fund, and other special funds. ADB’s current sovereign portfolio in Tajikistan includes 2 loans and 22 grants worth $1.06 billion.

In 2022, ADB disbursed $100 million in two grant programs to help the Government of Tajikistan strengthen social protection, ensure food security, and promote businesses.
The programs will also help stabilize the banking sector, boost the nonbanking finance sector, and strengthen fiscal management.

ADB committed a $38-million grant to expand climate-resilient water supply and sanitation systems in Dushanbe. This grant supplements an ongoing project aiming to improve the quality of life, health, and urban resilience in the capital city.

ADB is also increasing support to enhance road sustainability in southern Tajikistan through an additional grant financing of $43.2 million to scale up the safety and reliability of domestic roads and enhance women's access to social and economic activities.

To improve Tajikistan's resilience to climate change, ADB approved a $30-million grant to strengthen disaster risk management and reduce economic losses due to climate change and disasters caused by natural hazards. The project will help build disaster-resilient shelters, strengthen the capacity of local communities and officials, and improve response facilities in the Khatlon region through improved weather and disaster forecasting tools and an additional early warning system.

Operational challenges. ADB and the Government of Tajikistan are working closely to improve the quality at entry aspects of projects. To further ensure smoother project implementation, ADB helped build procurement and disbursement capacities of executing and implementing agencies through training, workshops, and on-the-job consultations. To mitigate the impacts of climate change and promote gender equality, relevant measures are integrated into the projects. ADB also ensures the financial sustainability of investments through rigorous due diligence assessments.

KNOWLEDGE WORK

ADB's knowledge work in Tajikistan provides analytical and capacity-building support that is aligned with the country partnership strategy's focus. In 2022, ADB examined the energy market, food safety systems, risks from flooding and earthquakes, and small, and medium-sized enterprises in Central and West Asia, including Tajikistan. ADB has also provided knowledge support for enhancing a road asset management system and road safety measures to ensure road safety and reliability. Tajikistan's macroeconomic landscape and economic prospects were featured in the Tajikistan chapter of the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2022 and the ADO 2022 Update. To highlight the benefits of vocational training, ADB published a photo essay on employment opportunities for Tajikistan's adults and young people.
FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Financing partnerships enable ADB’s financing partner governments or their agencies, multilateral financing institutions, and private organizations to participate in financing ADB projects. The additional funds provided 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 2018 to 31 December 2022 is available at www.adb.org/countries/tajikistan/cofinancing.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Under the country partnership strategy 2021-2025, ADB aims to further support government-led 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, develop roads connecting rural and urban areas with neighboring countries, and further improve energy sector efficiency. ADB will also address climate change, promote gender equality, and support regional cooperation and integration in its operations while developing its private sector operations.

| Tajikistan: Ordinary Capital Resources Nonsovereign Commitments by Product |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                             | 2022        | 2018–2022   |
| Number of Transactions Signed (OCR) | 0          | 0           |
| Number of Transactions Signed (Programs) | 2          | 7           |
| Loans                       | –           | –           |
| Equity Investments          | –           | –           |
| Guarantees                  | –           | –           |
| Debt Security               | –           | –           |
| Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program and Microfinance Program | 0.90 | 4.42 |
| Total                       | 0.90        | 4.42        |

- = nil, OCR = ordinary capital resources.

| Tajikistan: Portfolio Performance Quality Indicators for Sovereign Lending and Grants, 2021–2022 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| No. of Ongoing Loans (as of 31 Dec 2022)     | 2                                             |
| 2021 ($ million)                              | 2022 ($ million)                              |
| Contract Awards                              | 1.23                                          | 0.14                                         |
| Disbursements                                | 18.25                                        | 15.78                                        |
| No. of Ongoing Grants (as of 31 Dec 2022)    | 22                                            |
| 2021 ($ million)                              | 2022 ($ million)                              |
| Contract Awards                              | 198.55                                       | 167.58                                      |
| Disbursements                                | 114.85                                       | 210.38                                      |
| At Risk Projects (%) (as of 31 Dec 2022)     | –                                             |

- = nil.

Note: Totals may not add up because of rounding.

- Based on commitments.
- Includes closed loans/grants that had contract awards or disbursements during the year.
- Excludes policy-based, results-based, financial intermediation/credit, CPRO (COVID-19 Pandemic Response Option), and fully administered cofinanced loans and grants.
- Covers active projects as of 31 December 2022.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Validated and Evaluated Projects and Programs</td>
<td>Evaluation Ratings</td>
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<td>Highly successful</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sovereign Operations</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonsovereign Operations</td>
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- = nil, IED = Independent Evaluation Department.

Note: The numbers indicate sovereign operations in the country that have been validated or evaluated by the IED and their overall performance ratings. The coverage consists of all validated or evaluated project completion reports circulated by ADB within the 10-year period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2022. See evaluations related to Tajikistan.

Source: IED success rate database.

| Tajikistan: Projects Cofinanced, 1 January 2018–31 December 2022 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cofinancing          | No. of Projects | Amount ($ million) |
| Sovereign            | 6              | 232.72             |
| Loans                | 2              | 215.00             |
| Grants               | 3              | 16.92              |
| Technical Assistance | 1              | 0.80               |
| Nonsovereign         | 1              | 1.88               |
FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Total sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 2022

- $11.39 billion for 165 projects, of which:
  - $11.2 billion, 75 investment projects,
  - $126.49 million, 87 technical assistance projects,
  - $60 million transaction advisory services mandates for 3 projects.

Cumulative sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 1970–2022

- $151.87 billion for 3,292 projects, of which:
  - $12.8 billion as of 31 December 2022.
  - $15.45 billion covering 74,995 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966.
  - $535.61 million in 2022
  - $706.65 million in 2021

PROCUREMENT

ADB’s Procurement Contracts, 2022

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:

- $15.23 billion in 2021
- $16.19 billion in 2022
- $247.06 billion covering 228,149 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:

- $706.65 million in 2021
- $535.61 million in 2022
- $15.45 billion covering 74,995 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966.

MORE ABOUT TAJKIKISTAN AND ADB

Shareholding and Voting Power
Number of shares held: 30,402 (0.286% of total shares)
Votes: 69,516 (0.523% of total membership, 0.803% of total regional membership)
*Overall capital subscription: $404.6 million
*Paid-in capital subscription: $20.28 million

ADB Governor: Hokim Kholiizoda
ADB Alternate Governor: Sulton Rahimzoda
ADB Director: Vikas Sheel (India)
ADB Alternate Director: Nim Dorji (Bhutan)
ADB Director’s Advisor: V. Ponnuraj (India)

CONTACTS

Tajikistan Resident Mission (TJRM)
Established: 2003
Country Director: Shanny Campbell

Asian Development Bank
2, Huvaydulloev Street
Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 734049
Tel: +992 44 6031000
adbtrm@adb.org
www.adb.org/tajikistan
www.facebook.com/adbtajikistan

ADB Headquarters
6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City
1550 Metro Manila, Philippines
Tel: +63 2 8632 4444
Fax: +63 2 8636 2444
www.adb.org

Executive Office of the President
80, Rudaki Avenue
Dushanbe, 734001, Tajikistan
Tel: +992 372 215 956

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) Data are updated as of 31 December 2022 unless otherwise indicated.

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 3,775 staff from 66 members as of 31 December 2022.

ADB maximizes the development impact of its assistance to its 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 met strong demand for its assistance in 2022. It unlocked greater resources for its members through the private sector and partnerships. ADB provided financing for climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives, education quality and access, affordable health care, and more sustainable and climate-resilient food systems. In 2022, 97% of ADB operations contributed to gender equality. ADB fostered greater regional collaboration on issues such as health threats and tax cooperation.

ADB also responded to demand for tailored knowledge solutions from its members.

ADB operations. In 2022, ADB committed $20.5 billion in loans, grants, equity investments, guarantees, private sector programs, and technical assistance to both the public and private sectors of its borrowing members. ADB bolstered its total support with cofinancing of $11.4 billion.

As of 31 December 2022, ADB’s cumulative commitments in 45 countries stood at $358.4 billion covering 4,189 loans, $12.6 billion in 566 grants, and $5.5 billion in technical assistance grants, including regional technical assistance grants.

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

Total commitments in nonsovereign loans, equity investments, and guarantees from ADB’s own funds in 2022 amounted to $11.1 billion for 37 transactions in economic and social infrastructure, finance sector, and agribusiness.

In 2022, ADB mobilized $1.7 billion of long-term project cofinancing and $5.3 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 $12.8 billion as of 31 December 2022.