Cooperation Fund for Fighting HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific Regional Conference

Bangkok, Sofitel So, 9:00am - 5:00pm, 24 October 2014

Background
The Cooperation Fund for Fighting HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific ("Fund") was launched in February 2005 as a means for ADB to respond to the epidemic and support developing member countries (DMCs) to achieve the MDG for HIV/AIDS. The Fund has received $19.2 million contribution from the Government of Sweden.

For almost 10 years, the Fund has been the primary source of funding for HIV/AIDS and infrastructure mitigation, for promoting regional public goods and has served as a platform for regional cooperation, for leveraging partnerships and additional financing, and for increasing regional knowledge base on HIV prevention. The following technical assistance projects were supported under the Fund:

- Fighting HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (RETA 6321) with 12 subprojects
- Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS and Other Communicable Diseases in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Countries (RETA 8367)
- Greater Mekong Subregion for Capacity Development for HIV/AIDS Prevention (RETA 8204)
- Communications Campaign for Prevention of HIV/AIDS (RETA 8408)
- Mongolia: HIV/AIDS Prevention in ADB Infrastructure Projects and Mining Sector (TA 7175)
- Myanmar: Strengthening Response to Address HIV Risks along the Economic Corridors (TA 6467)
- Papua New Guinea: HIV Prevention and Lae Port Development (Grant 0102)

Objective of the Conference
A regional partners' meeting will be jointly organized with UNAIDS to review the effectiveness and outcomes of the projects supported by the Fund. Invited will be partners from government, Civil Society and development agencies, who have been involved in the trust fund implementation.

To ensure progress towards more sustainable response to HIV/AIDS at the country and regional levels, it is essential to gauge the outcome of ADB’s interventions as well as consider effective approaches in achieving the strategic priorities in the future. Specifically, the meeting objectives are:

- To appraise outcomes, lessons, and best practices resulting from the implementation of projects supported by the Fund.
- To identify alternative financing mechanisms and partnerships that will enable continued cost effective engagement of ADB in the response to HIV/AIDS. This could include, inter alia, Universal Health Coverage program in countries.
- To plan beyond 2014, particularly discuss how to address future priorities and funding sources to support programming for regional initiatives to tackle HIV/AIDS and related health issues in the region (such as TB, health of the marginalized, urban health etc.).

An interactive, constructive agenda is under development and will be shared shortly.