



## Regional: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Food Security through Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases

Project Name	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Food Security through Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
Project Number	47019-001
Country	Regional
Project Status	Active
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount	<p><b>TA 8736-REG: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Food Security through Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases</b></p> <p>Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction <span style="float: right;">US\$ 2.00 million</span></p>
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Partnerships Private sector development
Sector / Subsector	<b>Agriculture, natural resources and rural development</b> - Livestock
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements
Description	The TA aims at fostering regional cooperation among South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries, improving food security in the region, and facilitating regional and international trade in livestock and livestock products. About 30 seminars, workshops and training programs will be organized to improve the capacity of the animal health management agencies and stakeholders to control transboundary animal diseases (TADs). The TA will build on existing activities within the SAARC region funded through the EU regional cooperation program on highly pathogenic and emerging diseases (HPEDs). It will integrate these activities to underpin three priority diseases that limit trade in livestock and its products: food and mouth disease, pest des petits ruminants (goat plague), and highly pathogenic avian influenza. Since many TADs can also cause severe disease and death in humans, SAARC through the regional support unit will use the One Health approach to ensure a multidisciplinary approach to address these high-impact diseases, involving both the animal and human health sectors.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	TA is consistent with ADB's Regional Cooperation Strategy for South Asia (2011-2015) which considers trade facilitation as one of three priority areas for regional cooperation. The underpinning thrust of the TA is on promoting regional and international trade in livestock and livestock products. Following SAARC's request for ADB's assistance for a TA on combating transboundary animal diseases, ADB already conducted initial consultation with SAARC, and SAARC underpinned the importance of this TA.
Impact	Improved control of the priority TADs in affected zones of SAARC countries

### Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Improved biosecurity in the SAARC region
Progress Toward Outcome	Too early to assess.

### Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Established framework for improved regional cooperation among SAARC countries in combating TADs</li> <li>2. Regional structures in the fight against TADs operational</li> <li>3. Expanded regional and national animal health information and surveillance system</li> <li>4. Improved institutional capacity of public and private sector animal health management agencies</li> </ol>
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Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nomination/participation of SAARC member states to regional meetings/workshops/training on TADs facilitated. Regional Support Unit-SAARC website updated and disease information regularly shared; quarterly information bulletin produced and disseminated.</li> <li>2. The Regional Epidemiology Centre (REC) re-established to build national and regional veterinary epidemiology capacity, coordinate networking among epidemiological institutions and experts for information exchanges, and work towards harmonization and collaboration in the animal disease prevention and control approaches. Regional diagnostic laboratories operational.</li> <li>3. Development of South Asia Disease Information System platform ongoing. South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information produced and disseminated.</li> <li>4. Identification of regulations, policies, and strategies underway to support smallholder farmers' access to markets and promote regional trade through informed policy and operational decisions. Capacity building in international animal health regulations ongoing. Regional workshop on foot and mouth disease conducted for South Asian road map for progressive control pathway of foot and mouth disease in Sri Lanka in December 2016.</li> </ol>
Geographical Location	Maldives,Nepal,Pakistan,Bangladesh,India,Afghanistan,Bhutan,Sri Lanka

## Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

### Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design	The TA was prepared with extensive coordination with stakeholders. It is part of several project proposals on food security prepared by ADB and FAO jointly for SAARC. The project proposals were presented at several workshops held in Kathmandu, Nepal and in other SAARC member countries and also in Bangkok, Thailand. This project has been identified as a priority regional intervention by key stakeholders including country representatives, NGOs and development partners.
During Project Implementation	Regional cooperation will foster strong partnership among all the stakeholders and beneficiaries including livestock farmers, livestock traders, veterinarians, NGOs, border control units and pharmaceutical companies. ADB brings to the table its regional cooperation and integration work, which will help in coordinating the activities across countries, sectoral ministries and other development partners. The achievements under this project will be presented at SAARC ministerial meetings and the cross-sectoral aspect of the project will be featured.

## Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	<p>The implementation of the TA is expected to commence in March 2015. SAARC will be the implementing agency through Ministries of Agriculture and/or Livestock of SAARC member states. ADB will be the executing agency. Engagement of consulting services will follow ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will be selected by ADB through single source selection to implement the TA and deliver the required services.</p> <p>The FAO has the necessary expertise at global, regional, and national levels to provide technical and operational services to deliver TA activities. The FAO is the only institution qualified, with technical expertise and experience for the assignment. The FAO plays an important role in managing and coordinating development partner inputs to TAD control programs at country and regional levels. It has also been working closely with both ASEAN and SAARC in the development of regional activities for HPAI control.</p> <p>The FAO structure in the region provides a comparative advantage for detailed technical project implementation, with a well-established Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. Its Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) can provide full technical and administrative support. The FAO representative office in each SAARC member country provides an efficient high-level link to national animal health authorities. The FAO has a significant team of technical and operational personnel in the field, and this TA can be complemented by their activities. Single-source selection is justified, as the envisaged TA tasks represent continuity of the ongoing EU-funded regional cooperation program on HPEDs being implemented by the FAO.</p>
Procurement	The FAO will propose a team comprising 144 person-months of international and 48 person-months of national consulting services to deliver TA activities. All procurement will follow ADB's Procurement Guidelines (2013, as amended from time to time). The FAO will be paid on a time-based contract basis. The RSU in Kathmandu, Nepal will implement the project activities. A project steering committee composed of the SAARC Secretariat, experts representing each of the participating countries, the FAO, and ADB will be established to provide (i) overall strategic and policy directions, (ii) guidance and oversight, and (iii) implementation guidelines to the project and RSU. The FAO will (i) ensure transparency and accountability; (ii) facilitate administrative procedures; and (iii) provide legal assistance, where applicable. All disbursements under the TA will be made in accordance with the Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2010, as amended from time to time). The equipment procured under the TA will be turned over to the SAARC Secretariat upon TA completion.

## Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer: Tayyab, Ahsan

Responsible ADB Department	South Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division, SARD
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>

## Timetable

Concept Clearance	30 Jul 2013
Fact Finding	21 Jul 2013 to 26 Jul 2013
MRM	-
Approval	10 Oct 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	13 Feb 2017

## TA 8736-REG

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
10 Oct 2014	-	10 Oct 2014	30 Sep 2016	30 Sep 2017	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
0.00	2,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000,000.00	10 Oct 2014	1,825,315.00

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/47019-001/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/47019-001/main</a>
Request for Information	<a href="http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=47019-001">http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=47019-001</a>
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