



Regional: Information and Communication Technologies for Social Protection in the Asia and Pacific Region

Project Name	Information and Communication Technologies for Social Protection in the Asia and Pacific Region	
Project Number	47214-001	
Country	Regional	
Project Status	Closed	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 8686-REG: Information and Communication Technologies for Social Protection in the Asia and Pacific Region	
	Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund	US\$ 500,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships	
Sector / Subsector	Public sector management - Social protection initiatives	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements	
Description	<p>The TA promotes innovations for inclusiveness in social protection through application of ICT together with capacity building for national agencies implementing and monitoring social protection programs. It will support two main outputs: (i) Regional Stocktaking of ICT Utilization in Social Protection Programs; and (ii) Capacity building for DMCs on ICT4SP. Both outputs are designed to draw out best practices on ICT utilization in social protection programs delivery and share these to policy makers and government officials to bridge knowledge and capacity gaps.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The recently approved Social Protection Operational Plan (SPOP) identifies information and communication technology (ICT) use in social protection as a potential area for investments and knowledge work to support ADB developing member countries (DMCs) in strengthening social protection programs. While many DMCs have expanded their social protection programs and developed national social protection strategies, opportunities from ICT use in social protection delivery have not been fully realized in Asia and the Pacific region. Innovations in ICT have been used to improve governance and public service delivery in sectors such as education, health, and social protection. Initiatives like Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D or ICTD) have shown that actively using technology can improve living conditions in societies.</p> <p>ICT use in social protection has for instance enhanced targeting through more effective identification of beneficiaries; and improved payment mechanisms resulting to lower transaction costs to access payments or benefits. Recent examples in the region include increasing digitalization of cash transfers in Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines. ICT has also played a vital role in identity management (Id-M) linked to improving governance of public social services. Evidences of efficiency gains from ICT use in social protection programs are currently available for Latin America and Africa but best practices in Asia and the Pacific is currently limited and not disseminated. Furthermore, government capacity to maximize benefits from investments in ICT for improving social protection delivery remains weak. Knowledge and capacity gaps still exist in DMCs that permeate the digital divide between developing and developed economies. Within this context, the TA intends to draw global and regional best practices on ICT utilization in the design and delivery of social protection programs through a regional study, and build institutional and administrative capacity to apply or replicate some of the ICT tools in improving the efficiency of social protection programs in selected DMCs. The design and monitoring framework is in Appendix 1.</p>	
Impact	Improved delivery system of social protection programs through expanded application of ICT in DMCs in Asia and the Pacific	

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Increased ICT-literacy and capacity development among policy makers and government officials implementing social protection programs in DMCs
Progress Toward Outcome	
Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	1. Regional Stocktaking of ICT Utilization in Social Protection Programs 2. Capacity building in DMCs on ICT4SP
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	
Geographical Location	

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Handayani, Sri Wening
Responsible ADB Department	SDTC
Responsible ADB Division	SDTC-SOC
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	13 Mar 2014
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	11 Jul 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	22 May 2014

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Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
11 Jul 2014	-	11 Jul 2014	30 Jun 2016	30 Sep 2016	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
0.00	500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500,000.00	11 Jul 2014	433,393.02

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