



Regional: Education and Skills for Employment in Central and West Asia

Project Name	Education and Skills for Employment in Central and West Asia				
Project Number	47312-001				
Country	Regional				
Project Status	Active				
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance				
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">TA 8774-REG: Education and Skills for Employment in Central and West Asia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction</td> <td>US\$ 1.00 million</td> </tr> </table>	TA 8774-REG: Education and Skills for Employment in Central and West Asia		Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction	US\$ 1.00 million
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Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction	US\$ 1.00 million				
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration				
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Partnerships				
Sector / Subsector	Education - Secondary - Technical and vocational education and training				
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements				
Description	The TA will (i) undertake education sector assessments; (ii) prepare cross-cutting regional knowledge products and working papers; (iii) prepare roadmaps and specific focus notes for change based on country demand, and (iv) develop capacity building programs.				
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>In the past 20 years, developing member countries (DMCs) served by Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Central and West Asia Regional Department (CWRD) have undertaken a range of economic and social reforms to support transition of their economies. Despite the achievements, CWRD countries face challenges to boosting their global and regional competitiveness. A 2011 report from the Organization of Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) showed that less underdeveloped education and training systems represent one of the three major challenges to improving competitiveness of these economies. While the existing human capital base in most CWRD countries has a number of strengths, such as high literacy rates and high primary enrolment rates, challenges remain. There are , including skills gaps, reliance on imported labor in some countries while there is majorand significant outmigration for work in other countries, unemployment, and underdeveloped research and innovation capacity, leading to making these DMCs less competitive economies. Significant improvement is required in the education and skill levels of the workforce in the CWRD countries to further their development levels. A number of the CWRD countries are at at or are approaching middle-income levels. If these countries are to maintain their growth rates, they need to transform into knowledge-based economies.</p> <p>In the past, ADB has supported education sector development in selected developing member countries (DMCs) in Central and West Asia. Responding to expressed country and regional needs and to Strategy 2020 midterm review initial findings, and there is a need to continue and expandit is important to take a more ADB's strategic approach to CWRD involvement in the education sector in CWRD countries. The proposed regional technical assistance (TA) grant of \$1.0 million has been designed to respond to the human capital needs in CWRD countries and to support ADB's policy dialogue in the education sector in this subregion. The TA will incorporate lessons learned in improving education and training systems and develop a better understanding of constraints and opportunities in these countries' CWRD DMC education sector development of CWRD countries. TA closing date has been extended to August 2017.</p>				
Impact	Improved education and skills training systems aligned to employment requirements in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan				

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Increased knowledge and capacity of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan to adopt appropriate policies and investments in education and skills development
Progress Toward Outcome	Consultants are being recruited for thematic analytical studies based on government priorities.

Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	Thematic analytical studies and knowledge products completed Capacity-building programs developed and delivered to education policy makers
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	The TA steering committees from Armenia, Uzbekistan, and Azerbaijan identified priorities for thematic analytical studies and workshops. A number of consultants including on PPPs in education, financing of education, TVET, education, and industry partnerships have been mobilized. A regional K-12 education system forum was organized. The next forum, focusing on post-secondary education reform is being planned for February 2017.
Geographical Location	Armenia,Uzbekistan,Azerbaijan

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design	The TA was designed in close cooperation with CWRD countries and resident missions.
During Project Implementation	During TA implementation, extensive consultations with the participating countries, experts, and resident missions is carried out.

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	Eight international individual consultants and one national consultant have been engaged under the TA. Three international individual consultants are yet to be engaged (International PPP Specialist, Teaching and Learning Materials, Design and Development, Education Policy and Planning Expert).
Procurement	N/A

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Sarvi, Jouko
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	CWSS
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	16 May 2014
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	03 Dec 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	28 Sep 2016

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Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
03 Dec 2014	-	03 Dec 2014	28 Feb 2017	31 Aug 2017	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization	Cumulative Disbursements
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ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
0.00	1,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000,000.00	03 Dec 2014	596,109.11

Project Page <https://www.adb.org/projects/47312-001/main>

Request for Information <http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=47312-001>

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