



Uzbekistan: Enhancing Efficiency in Rural Infrastructure

Project Name	Enhancing Efficiency in Rural Infrastructure					
Project Number	48039-001					
Country	Uzbekistan					
Project Status	Active					
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance					
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">TA 8894-UZB: Enhancing Efficiency in Rural Infrastructure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td> <td>US\$ 600,000.00</td> </tr> </table>		TA 8894-UZB: Enhancing Efficiency in Rural Infrastructure		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 600,000.00
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Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 600,000.00					
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth					
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development					
Sector / Subsector	Industry and trade - Small and medium enterprise development Public sector management - Public administration Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban housing					
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements					
Description	<p>This TA will enhance rural outcomes in three ways. First, the TA will assess a random sample of the houses constructed, infrastructure, community facilities, home-based businesses and oversight mechanisms in the field, and recommend ways to improve them. Second, the technical capacity of relevant government agencies will be enhanced, to improve HIRD physical implementation and enable any necessary changes to policies, procedures, and practices for construction and completion of rural houses and related infrastructure. Third, responsiveness to client needs from Government agencies will be improved by better interactions with HIRD beneficiaries.</p>					
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>Under the Government's Welfare Improvement Strategy of Uzbekistan 2012 - 2015, key objectives for regional economic growth include ensuring higher rates of economic development in regions that have lower per capita income and industrial production and services. Further, a government objective is to ensure that living conditions for the rural population are brought as close as possible to the level enjoyed in cities through the development of transport and public utilities infrastructure, educational institutions, healthcare units, and sporting facilities. One specific program launched in support of these objectives is the Housing for Integrated Rural Development (HIRD) Investment Program. As originally envisaged, from 2011 to 2015, 40,800 houses will be built nationwide. In 2011, ADB approved a \$500m multitranché financing facility to support HIRD through intermediary financing to the participating commercial banks who provide mortgages to homebuyers.</p> <p>As housing construction grows in rural areas, homebuyers are becoming more discerning in their housing needs, demand more robust construction standards and want swift action taken against construction firms who do not meet satisfactory regulatory and construction standards. With the Government an active participant in the rural housing construction market, there has been little opportunity or incentive to review the regulatory standards and their application to assess if they are 'fit for purpose' for rural housing. Further, capacity to provide active oversight during construction has been stretched, and there has been little training for those officials who provide oversight of construction.</p> <p>The key development issues to be addressed under this TA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government being more responsive to the needs of rural homebuyers in terms of consistent and high quality house construction standards and construction oversight. - Government capacity to adjust rural construction regulatory standards and provide effective construction oversight. - Government understanding of its role and responsibilities with regard to inspection and timely action on poor construction work, taking measured and proportionate responses to these construction firms. - Government having an increased understanding of how technology can be used to improve construction oversight outcomes, and complement existing construction oversight techniques. 					
Impact	Improved housing construction, associated infrastructure and individual work opportunities					

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Improved government technical capacity to deliver rural housing and associated infrastructure, and to support home-based enterprises
Progress Toward Outcome	Ongoing
Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	1. Improved field technical assessment tools and procurement of HIRD program construction 2. Improved field technical assessment tools of HIRD program infrastructure and community facilities 3. Improved field technical assessment tools of HIRD program housing in support of home-based enterprises
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	Ongoing
Geographical Location	Nationwide

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	During the Loan Review mission for UZB: HIRD Program from 29 April to 13 May, this TA was discussed with the Ministry of Economy, the State Committee for Architecture and Construction, Qishloq Qurilish Invest Engineering Company, Qishloq Qurilish Loyiha Design and Research Institute, and the State Cadastre Committee.
During Project Implementation	The TA is being discussed regularly with the government and TA implementation is on track.

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	A national procurement specialist was engaged for 11 person-months, intermittently, from 17 March 2016 to 31 Jan 2017. Two civil engineers (international and national) have been hired and have provided their inputs under the TA. The TA is likely to undergo a minor change to realign its support inputs to the emerging needs of the affordable rural housing program, the first RBL for Uzbekistan.
Procurement	Not applicable

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Sumbal, Asadullah Khan
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Uzbekistan Resident Mission
Executing Agencies	<i>Ministry of Economy Uzbekistan Avenue, 45A Tashkent, 100060, Republic of Uzbekistan</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	19 Nov 2014
Fact Finding	09 Mar 2015 to 18 Mar 2015
MRM	-
Approval	08 May 2015
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	31 Mar 2017

TA 8894-UZB

Milestones

Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
08 May 2015	17 Jun 2015	17 Jun 2015	31 Dec 2017	-	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00	08 May 2015	54,088.85

Project Page <https://www.adb.org/projects/48039-001/main>

Request for Information <http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=48039-001>

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