



Technical Assistance Report

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Regional—Research and Development Technical Assistance (R-RDTA)
July 2016

Agenda 2030: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals through Strategic Partnerships and Preparedness

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Asian Development Bank

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
DMC	–	developing member country
FFD	–	financing for development
MDG	–	Millennium Development Goal
SDG	–	Sustainable Development Goal
TA	–	technical assistance
UN	–	United Nations
UNDP	–	United Nations Development Programme

NOTE

In this report, “\$” refers to US dollars.

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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT A GLANCE

1. Basic Data		Project Number: 48203-001	
Project Name	Agenda 2030: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals through Strategic Partnerships and Preparedness	Department /Division	SPD/SPOD
Country	REG	Executing Agency	Asian Development Bank
2. Sector	Subsector(s)	ADB Financing (\$ million)	
✓ Public sector management	Public administration		1.10
	Public expenditure and fiscal management		0.30
		Total	1.40
3. Strategic Agenda	Subcomponents	Climate Change Information	
Inclusive economic growth (IEG)	Pillar 2: Access to economic opportunities, including jobs, made more inclusive	Climate Change impact on the Project	Medium
Environmentally sustainable growth (ESG)	Disaster risk management Environmental policy and legislation Global and regional transboundary environmental concerns Natural resources conservation Urban environmental improvement		
Regional integration (RCI)	Pillar 1: Cross-border infrastructure Pillar 3: Money and finance Pillar 4: Other regional public goods		
4. Drivers of Change	Components	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	
Governance and capacity development (GCD)	Civil society participation Institutional development Public financial governance	Effective gender mainstreaming (EGM)	✓
Knowledge solutions (KNS)	Application and use of new knowledge solutions in key operational areas Knowledge sharing activities		
Partnerships (PAR)	Implementation International finance institutions (IFI) Regional organizations United Nations organization		
Private sector development (PSD)	Conducive policy and institutional environment		
5. Poverty Targeting		Location Impact	
Project directly targets poverty	No	Regional	High
6. TA Category:	B		
7. Safeguard Categorization	Not Applicable		
8. Financing			
Modality and Sources		Amount (\$ million)	
ADB		1.40	
Research and development technical assistance: Technical Assistance Special Fund		1.40	
Cofinancing		0.00	
None		0.00	
Counterpart		0.00	
None		0.00	
Total		1.40	
9. Effective Development Cooperation			
Use of country procurement systems		No	
Use of country public financial management systems		No	

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is strongly committed to supporting progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an important platform for renewed development cooperation during 2016–2030 adopted by member states at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015.¹ The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Paris climate agreement, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2015–2030 reinforce support for the SDGs.² Together, they will influence national policies and budgets, partnerships with the private sector and civil society, and development cooperation over a 15-year span.

2. The SDGs build on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with a broader focus that includes economic prosperity, social equity, and environmental responsibility in developing and developed countries. For the first time, the global aim has extended to ending poverty in all forms everywhere, instead of just reducing it by half in developing countries. Tackling inequalities in realizing opportunities and safeguarding the environment while promoting growth is now fully embedded in the SDGs. Higher SDG ambitions offer both new opportunities and difficult trade-offs that have to be negotiated through new approaches to development. However, as noted in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, financing for development (FFD) has lagged behind the SDG aspirations. ADB, together with the other multilateral development banks, has committed to the provision of increased financial resources as well as technical assistance (TA) and policy advice in support of the new global development agenda.³

3. Existing ADB TA support for the MDGs has been active since 2004, and will end on 31 December 2016. It is implemented through a three-phased allocation of \$2.825 million,⁴ and its focus has shifted to the SDGs during 2015–2016. ADB and its developing member countries (DMCs) would benefit from new TA with a strengthened focus on the SDGs, which builds on experience with the MDGs and lessons from the MDG TA.⁵ This TA aims to support SDG progress in Asia and the Pacific, complement the efforts of other development partners, and help ADB prepare engagements in support of the SDGs.

4. A proposal for this TA, with initial budget of \$1,000,000 from ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-V), was presented to Heads of Departments on 12 November 2015 as part of the 2016 corporate priority TA program. The budget was increased to \$1,400,000 to fund expanded TA activities.⁶ The design and monitoring framework is in Appendix 1.

¹ United Nations (UN) General Assembly. 2015. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>).

² 2015 saw three major interlinked global events for development cooperation: (i) the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held 13–16 July in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; (ii) the UN Sustainable Development Summit 2015, held 25–27 September in New York; and (iii) the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held 30 November–11 December 2015 in Paris, France. In addition, 2015 started with the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2015–2030 at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on 18 March in Sendai, Japan.

³ African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank Group. 2015. *From Billions to Trillions: Transforming Development Finance*. Washington, DC.

⁴ ADB. Regional: Supporting the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Asia and Pacific Region, Phase III. <http://www.adb.org/projects/39359-012/main#project-pds>

⁵ Key lessons include (i) incorporating the significantly different nature of the SDGs (which integrate social, economic, and environmental dimensions) from the MDGs, which were primarily oriented at poverty; and (ii) strengthening the dissemination of knowledge outputs, both internally and externally.

⁶ The concept paper's title, *Support for Post 2015 International Development Goals*, has been updated to *Agenda 2030: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals through Strategic Partnerships and Preparedness* to incorporate the final name of the new goals. The TA first appeared in the business opportunities section of ADB's website on 3 June 2016.

II. ISSUES

5. With the conclusion of the MDG TA, it is necessary to budget resources for ADB's strategic external engagements and internal measures to (i) enhance ADB collaboration with partners on SDG tracking, contribute to assessing implementation challenges, and identify opportunities presented by the SDGs; and (ii) develop a cohesive ADB response to the SDGs, including identifying potential directions and business prospects to better support ADB DMCs.

6. The proposed TA responds to two types of issues: (i) challenges critical to sustainable development, with a diagnosis of strategic bottlenecks to SDG progress; and (ii) complexities in tracking and reporting on SDG progress (the SDGs include new areas and interlinking goals). Shared perspectives on the challenges faced by DMCs, especially those that cut across several SDGs, and regular updates on progress will be critical for future development cooperation.

7. The TA will support Agenda 2030 overall, complementing a more detailed focus on individual goals that can be better provided by relevant thematic and sector groups. Externally, this TA will (i) support shared tracking (in combination with development partners) of overall SDG progress in the region; (ii) facilitate collaboration on SDG-related reports, technical papers, and studies relevant to varied country contexts; and (iii) support policy dialogues, consultations, and advocacy through multi-stakeholder platforms. This will systematically provide ADB insights into the changing development context of the SDGs, and contribute to monitoring the ongoing relevance of ADB operations. Internally, the TA will assist in building ADB's corporate response to the SDGs. It will help to better reflect the SDGs in ADB's strategic directions, operations, and results reporting, and respond to new business opportunities that are tailored to meet the specific circumstances of different DMCs. Thus, the TA will support the overall ADB response to Agenda 2030 through strategic partnerships and strengthened preparedness.

8. Three megatrends in Asia require consideration: (i) exponential urbanization; (ii) demographic change, both from changing birth and death rates and from enormous human mobility; and (iii) a huge rise in connectedness resulting from increased cross-border movements of money, goods, services, ideas, and people. These trends present challenges and opportunities. The region has a large proportion of the world's population that faces deprivation on a number of income and non-income measures, with the largest numbers found in middle-income countries. Climate change is a global concern that has the potential to reverse hard-won gains. ADB recognizes that while robust growth remains important for the SDGs, countries and partners must increase their focus on inclusion and the environment, leverage new opportunities, and ease the trade-offs that these actions may present.

9. There are critical bottlenecks (such as gaps in infrastructure services and FFD) that constrain overall SDG progress. Infrastructure investments are inherently long-term and not easily reversed, and thus require a well-considered approach. Access to quality infrastructure services affects both overall growth and the ability of the poor to realize opportunities, while shaping a society's potential to enjoy a cleaner environment and a fair sharing of benefits across generations. Durability and resilience are important factors, as these public assets are expected to have long life spans.

10. The increased ambition of Agenda 2030 in combination with changes in aid architecture requires new approaches to the mobilization of funds from all sources, as the share of

nontraditional sources is expanding.⁷ While the fragmentation of aid sources will require management, it increases the choices available to DMCs, and may enable better alignment with national priorities. The ability of many DMCs to benefit from the changing finance landscape has been restricted by limited financial markets and the capacity of DMCs to access, manage, and absorb funds for strategic applications. Official development assistance will be far from adequate, although it has particular value in terms of its direct contribution to development. Climate funds will be a growing source of funding. A shift from development finance to wider FFD will provide cofinancing openings for ADB to support country-specific opportunities to access and use domestic and international finance options from both public and private sources.

11. There is a growing need to support (i) progressive improvements on SDG indicators, agreed definitions, and disaggregation; (ii) shared tracking of SDG challenges and progress; and (iii) improved communication. The United Nations (UN) Statistical Commission's Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators has finalized a global set of 230 indicators to monitor the 169 targets under the 17 SDGs.⁸ Discussions are underway to harmonize the SDG indicators with those for monitoring the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, while consensus needs to be reached regarding indicators for private sector contributions. New indicators to track additional dimensions of economic, social, and environmental conditions in a globally comparable way have increased demands on official statistical systems, straining national capacities. A long-term view requires covering all targets meaningfully rather than limiting monitoring to those indicators with sound current methodologies and broad country coverage. The global aim is to improve data in stages, with contributions by regional partners.

12. UN member states have pledged to leave no one behind (i.e., the SDGs must reach and benefit everyone regardless of ethnicity, gender, geography, disability, race or other status), which will require serious attention to data disaggregation to counter disparities. Information on systemically disadvantaged population groups and/or locations and better disaggregation of data by gender are important. For countries in Asia and the Pacific, it will be crucial that monitoring processes be customized to country contexts. There are data implications for reporting of corporate results by ADB and its development partners. Joint SDG tracking in collaboration with relevant UN agencies will help assess the relevance of ADB operations, inform partnerships, and strengthen results. ADB expects to continue collaborating with key partners on data and indicators to support shared tracking of development progress.

III. THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. Impact and Outcome

13. The impact will be contribution to SDG progress in Asia and the Pacific.⁹ The outcomes will be: (i) enhanced ADB collaboration on joint SDG tracking and shared assessment of implementation challenges and opportunities for DMCs; and (ii) a cohesive ADB response to SDGs, including potential business prospects and future strategic directions.

B. Methodology and Key Activities

14. The TA will have four major outputs:

⁷ ADB. 2015. *Making Money Work: Financing a Sustainable Future in Asia and the Pacific*, Manila; R. Greenhill, A. Prizzon, and A. Rogerson. 2013. *The Age of Choice: Developing Countries in the New Aid Landscape*. ODI Working Paper Series. No. 364. London: Overseas Development Institute.

⁸ Following the 11 March agreement on the 230 global SDG indicators, further work includes establishing a tier system, methodological review and revisions, and reporting mechanisms.

⁹ This is consistent with aims and motivations outlined in Agenda 2030 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

- (i) **Regional tracking and reporting of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals supported.** This output will include data updates, disaggregation, measurement methodology, gap identification and support to improvements over time. SDG indicators will be harmonized with FFD indicators.¹⁰ Collaboration on data will aim to progressively improve tracking of SDG progress in the region. Externally, this will involve working with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the UN Development Programme, and other development partners and experts. Such collaboration will help establish a shared understanding of changes within and across countries, and support customization and an evidence-based assessment of disparities in achievement and opportunities. Within ADB, data outputs will contribute to results reporting that reflects SDG progress, and improves the assessment of the ongoing relevance of ADB strategies and operations.
- (ii) **Strategic regional reports, technical papers, and studies relevant to the Sustainable Development Goals produced.** Knowledge outputs include the regional SDG report produced jointly with the UN Development Programme and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific¹¹. An ADB strategic report supporting Agenda 2030; relevant technical background papers, policy and issues briefs; and country studies on locally relevant means of implementation, including finance; are other outputs, recognizing the high aspirations of the SDGs. Thus the TA will develop issue-based strategic knowledge products for policy advocacy on SDG-related development priorities and implementation challenges in DMCs. They will draw upon inputs from ADB's knowledge departments.
- (iii) **Structured policy dialogues and advocacy on Sustainable Development Goals conducted.** The TA will support regional and/or subregional and global forums, workshops, and multi-stakeholder consultations on SDG-related development priorities, implementation challenges, and opportunities. At least 6 events will be held. A communications plan will be developed to strengthen advocacy internally and externally, with guidance from the Department of External Relations. The TA will support platforms within and outside ADB to share policy-relevant ideas through strategic multi-stakeholder knowledge exchange (including blogs, webspace, and other opportunities such as online discussions) to reach wider audiences. The dialogue will contribute to build country capacities on SDG implementation in the region as well as in ADB.
- (iv) **Strategic and operational framework scoping ADB's response to the Sustainable Development Goals prepared.** A scoping paper will be produced identifying potential directions to help build ADB's response to the SDGs in a manner that is relevant and customized to fit the circumstances of various DMCs, and will thereby help ADB respond to new investment opportunities. Gender perspectives and sex-disaggregated data will be integrated, as will a stronger responsiveness to inclusion overall. The TA will help to better reflect the SDGs in ADB's strategic directions, operations, and results reporting. The project classification system will be updated to reflect how ADB operations, including cofinancing, impact the SDGs, and identify contributions to achievement of the

¹⁰ The UN has initiated follow-up on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The first forum (held in New York on 18–20 April 2016) will feed into the implementation review of Agenda 2030. Monitoring progress on financing is to be harmonized with SDG progress monitoring as the latter includes financing under the means of implementation.

¹¹ ADB, UN Development Programme, and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific will be joint copyright owners in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the ADB and the UN represented by the Secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on joint publications concluded on 25 April 2013.

SDGs through ADB-financed and cofinanced projects. The TA will support Agenda 2030 overall rather than focus on individual goals, which are better addressed by relevant thematic and sector groups.

15. Key assumptions include (i) DMC commitment to the SDGs; (ii) significance of evidence-based policies to support SDG progress; and (iii) the strategic importance of ADB as a contributor of funds, knowledge, and policy dialogue in the region. A potential risk is a change in organizational mandate or approach of probable partners, which will be minimized through potential issue-specific engagement with various partners (e.g., multilateral and bilateral). Another risk is the possible interruption of work due to economic, environmental, and/or security shocks, which could have global and/or regional implications requiring more immediate attention.

C. Cost and Financing

16. The TA is estimated to cost \$1,400,000, which will be financed on a grant basis by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-V).

D. Implementation Arrangements

17. ADB will be the executing agency of the TA. The Strategy and Policy Department will administer and implement the TA from June 2016 to December 2019. The Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, and relevant sector and thematic groups will be consulted for technical inputs in respect of selected outputs. Inputs will also be sought from the ADB Institute. A cross-departmental advisory team will be constituted for specific outputs as needed. The Department of External Relations will provide guidance on communications and strengthen dissemination.

18. The TA will support regional and global collaboration, including through partnerships with UN agencies, coordination with other multilateral development banks, and work undertaken with other development partners. Subregional organizations will be included when useful to TA activities. Collaboration with national institutions may be considered (e.g., for country-specific studies with wider subregional and/or regional or global application), as well as through participation in workshops and meetings.

19. The TA will support hiring of individual and institutional expertise, and inputs from think tanks and universities will also be sought. The Sustainable Development Solutions Network, a global initiative for the UN to build scientific and technological expertise on SDG implementation, will help attract SDG know-how. Consultant terms of reference are in Appendix 3.

20. Consultants will be recruited in accordance with the ADB Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). For organizational partners, the respective administrative arrangements agreed by ADB with these potential partners will apply. Funds will be disbursed in accordance with ADB's *Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook* (2010, as amended from time to time).

IV. THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION

21. The President, acting under the authority delegated by the Board, has approved the provision of technical assistance not exceeding the equivalent of \$1,400,000 on a grant basis for Agenda 2030: Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals through Strategic Partnerships and Preparedness, and hereby reports this action to the Board.

DESIGN AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Impact(s) the TA is Aligned with:			
SDG progress in Asia and the Pacific supported ^a			
Results Chain	Performance Indicators with Targets and Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting	Risks
<p>Outcomes</p> <p>1. Collaboration on SDGs among development partners enhanced</p> <p>2. ADB's cohesive response to the SDGs with potential future directions developed</p>	<p>1. At least 2 external collaborations established or updated (Baseline: 1 tripartite partnership on MDGs)</p> <p>2. Key implications for ADB's strategic directions, operations and results reporting, and future business opportunities documented and internally disseminated (Baseline: NA)</p>	<p>1. TA progress reports</p> <p>2. TA progress reports</p>	<p>Change in organizational mandate and approach of potential partners</p> <p>Economic, environmental, and/or security shocks that could have global and/or regional implications requiring more immediate attention</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Regional monitoring and reporting of SDG progress in collaboration with partners supported</p> <p>2. SDG-relevant strategic regional reports, technical papers, and country studies produced</p> <p>3. Structured policy dialogues and SDG advocacy conducted</p>	<p>1a. Baseline for shared regional SDG monitoring that applies revised indicators finalized (Baseline: NA)</p> <p>1b. SDG data set for corporate results reporting and operations use prepared (Baseline: NA)</p> <p>1c. Indicators for progress monitoring of SDGs, financing for development, and results reporting harmonized (Baseline: 0)^b</p> <p>2a. At least 1 regional SDG report (Theme 1: Addressing disparities in SDG progress) under a tripartite partnership between ADB, UNESCAP, and UNDP completed (Baseline: 9 regional MDG reports)</p> <p>2b. At least 1 strategic ADB report (Infrastructure on Human Terms) finalized by 2017 (Baseline: ADB strategic report, Making Money Work)</p> <p>2c. At least 6 TBPs incorporating different development contexts with issues/policy briefs supporting the SDGs and financing for development produced (Baseline: 5 TBPs on MDGs)</p> <p>3a. At least 6 subregion-specific multi-stakeholder consultations-cum-advocacy workshops and relevant meetings held</p> <p>3b. At least 75% of DMC clients represented in the workshops (Baseline: 0)</p> <p>3c. Findings on at least 1 regional SDG report disseminated (Baseline: 0)</p>	<p>1a. TA progress reports</p> <p>1b. Report on the new corporate results framework</p> <p>1c. TA progress reports</p> <p>2a–c. TA progress reports</p> <p>3a–b. Workshop outcome documents</p> <p>3c. TA progress report</p>	

Results Chain	Performance Indicators with Targets and Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting	Risks
4. Cohesive framework scoping a proposed ADB response to the SDGs prepared	4a. A scoping paper identifying potential directions for strategy, operations, financing, and reporting developed (Baseline: 0) 4b. At least 6 departments consulted for inputs, relevance for ADB established, and awareness raised (Baseline: 0) 4c. Inputs for updating ADB's project classification system to reflect the SDGs and financing for development provided (Baseline: NA)	4a–c. TA progress reports	
Key Activities with Milestones			
<p>1. Regional monitoring and reporting of SDG progress supported in collaboration with partners</p> <p>1.1 Map SDGs, targets, and indicators with ADB operations targets and results indicators, with ongoing revisions (Q2 2016–2019)</p> <p>1.2 Collaborate on SDG-relevant indicators, both within ADB and with external UN partners (Q2 2016–2019)</p> <p>1.3 Partner with the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators for capacity development support on disaggregated SDG data in cooperation with ERCD (Q1 2017, Q2 2018, Q3 2019)</p> <p>2. SDG-relevant strategic regional reports, technical papers, and country studies produced</p> <p>2.1 Engage internal and external experts for the preparation of TBPs (Q2–Q3 2016, Q2–Q3 2018)</p> <p>2.2 Draft and revise TBPs (Q3–Q4 2016, Q1 2017, Q3–Q4 2018, Q1 2019)</p> <p>2.3 Draft ADB strategic report, Infrastructure on Human Terms (Q1–Q2 2017)</p> <p>2.4 Draft and finalize the ADB chapter for the first regional SDG report (Q2–Q3 2017)</p> <p>3. Structured policy dialogues and SDG advocacy conducted</p> <p>3.1 Target participants from 10 ASEAN members plus the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Timor-Leste; and collaborate with the UNDP regional hub and relevant subregional offices of UNESCAP (2016–2018)</p> <p>3.2 Collaborate with the UNDP regional hub and relevant subregional offices of UNESCAP to hold events in South Asia (Delhi), Central Asia (Almaty), and the Pacific (Suva) (2017, 2018)</p> <p>4. Cohesive framework scoping a proposed ADB response to the SDGs prepared</p> <p>4.1 Initiate consultations across relevant ADB departments and external experts on scope (Q3–Q4 2016)</p> <p>4.2 Draft a proposed framework relevant to ADB (Q1 2017, 2016)</p> <p>4.3 Update the framework based on feedback and dissemination (Q2 2017)</p> <p>4.4 Draft revision of key implications document for ADB's SDG response, including strategic directions, operations, results reporting, and future business opportunities (Q3–Q4 2016, Q1–Q2 2017)</p> <p>4.5 Revise ADB's project classification system to incorporate SDGs and financing for development objectives (Q2 2016–Q1 2017)</p>			
Inputs			
ADB: \$1,400,000			
Assumptions for Partner Financing			
Not Applicable.			

ADB = Asian Development Bank, ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations, DMC = developing member country, ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, MDG = Millennium Development Goal, NA = not applicable, Q = quarter, SDG = Sustainable Development Goal, TA = technical assistance, TBP = technical background paper, UN = United Nations, UNDP = United Nations Development Programme, UNESCAP = United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

^a UN General Assembly. 2015. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

^b Recognizing overlaps between the indicator frameworks for the SDGs and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

COST ESTIMATES AND FINANCING PLAN

(\$'000)

Item	Amount
Asian Development Bank^a	
1. Consultants	
a. Remuneration and per diem	
i. International consultants	380.0
ii. National consultants	70.0
b. International and local travel	110.0
c. Reports and communications	10.0
2. Workshops, consultations, and dissemination ^b	535.0
3. Publication	125.0
4. Miscellaneous administration and support costs	45.0
5. Contingencies	125.0
Total	1,400.0

^a Financed by the Asian Development Bank's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-V).

^b Up to eight workshops with around 60 participants. The workshops will be held at the Asian Development Bank headquarters, in one country in each subregion, and at the locations of relevant UN global events. The technical assistance supervising unit will comply with Asian Development Bank, Budget Personnel and Management Systems Department and Strategy and Policy Department. 2013. Use of Bank Resources: Regional Technical Assistance and Technical Assistance vs. Internal Administrative Expenses Budget. Memorandum. 26 June.
Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

OUTLINE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANTS

1. The regional research and development technical assistance (TA) will require the services of individual consultants, both international and national, to provide direct technical inputs to help the Asian Development Bank (ADB) better respond internally to operational needs and externally to increase its contribution to policy engagement and international dialogue on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The consultants will be hired to (i) prepare selected technical background papers and serve as resource persons in meetings and workshops, (ii) organize meetings and consultations and advocacy workshops, and (iii) provide research and administrative support toward the effective implementation of the TA. The individual consultants will be selected and engaged in accordance with the ADB Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). Engagement of organizational partners will be based on administrative arrangements agreed to by ADB and its respective partners.

A. International Consultants

2. **Social development and financing for development** (1 consultant for 12 person-months, continuous). The consultant will have (i) a master's degree or a minimum of 10 years of relevant professional experience in development economics; (ii) considerable field experience working on related areas; and (iii) familiarity with policy discussions on international development goals, including the SDGs and financing for development. The consultant will be tasked to prepare technical papers that will situate the SDGs in the context of development opportunities and challenges in Asia and the Pacific. Among the topics that will be studied include the development and financing of sustainable infrastructure for equity, growth, and the environment; and a potential framework to strengthen ADB's response to the SDGs at the strategic and operational levels.

3. **Sustainable development policies and international cooperation** (2 consultants for 3 person-months each; 1 consultant for 1 person-month; intermittent). The consultants will have (i) a strong academic background and/or a well-recognized professional status in relevant aspects of sustainable development, and (ii) familiarity with United Nations (UN) global commitments. They will have extensive experience in policy formulation and execution, a demonstrated track record of successfully engaging high-level policy makers and planners globally, and knowledge of Asia and the Pacific. The consultants, who will be recruited using single-source selection, will be experts from the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which is a recognized global initiative for the UN. The network is expected to provide high-quality technical expertise on linking the SDGs with ADB's comparative advantage and areas of operations to benefit ADB's developing members. The consultants will be tasked to develop a framework to guide a corporate response to SDGs, building on the inter-linkages between the global goals and targets.

4. **Infrastructure finance and policy formulation** (4 consultants for 3 person-months each, intermittent). The consultants will have (i) a masters' degree or a minimum of 15 years of professional experience in a relevant discipline, including business, development economics, finance, or a related field; and (ii) considerable expertise in designing policies, including financing of one or more types of infrastructure. They will have excellent understanding of infrastructure challenges and opportunities in Asia and the Pacific and have demonstrated experience in high-quality research, analytical writing, and publications. They will be tasked to write technical background papers examining all forms of built, social, and natural infrastructure at the national and subnational levels. The papers will aim to identify policy directions on

infrastructure development toward countering inequalities, ensuring durability, and financing infrastructure investments.

5. **Manuscript and/or technical editor** (1 consultant for 2 person-months, intermittent). The manuscript and/or technical editor will have a minimum of 10 years of relevant professional experience and will be responsible for editing technical report manuscripts that will be published, and will assist in preparing the highlights, including the tables and charts included in the publications. The editor will also assist in the preparation of presentation materials for dissemination events.

B. National Consultant

6. **Policy and strategy analyst and administrative support** (1 consultant for 21 person-months, continuous). The consultant will have a minimum of 7 years of relevant professional experience and demonstrated expertise on development economics. The consultant must have considerable field experience working on SDG-related areas and familiarity with related global discussions. The specific tasks will include (i) providing technical support to the international consultant/s with respect to data gathering and analysis; (ii) contributing to the review of concept notes and technical papers and providing comments to improve the quality of the final documents; (iii) organizing consultation workshops and dissemination seminars, including preparing the dissemination material; and (iv) supporting web-based dissemination by developing web content that is related to the TA outputs.