



# Completion Report

---

Project Number: 48251-001  
Technical Assistance Number: 8644  
May 2016

## Sustainable Energy Training Program 2014

This document is being disclosed to the public in accordance with ADB's Public Communications Policy 2011.

**Asian Development Bank**

In preparing any country program or strategy, financing any project, or by making any designation of or reference to a particular territory or geographic area in this document, the Asian Development Bank does not intend to make any judgments as to the legal or other status of any territory or area.

TA No., Country and Name			Amount Approved: \$225,000.00	
TA 8644-REG: Sustainable Energy Training Program 2014			Revised Amount: N/A	
Executing Agency:		Source of Funding:	Amount Undisbursed:	Amount Utilized:
Asian Development Bank		Clean Energy Fund under the Clean Energy Financing Partnership Facility	\$91,408.51	\$133,591.49
TA Approval Date:	TA Signing Date:	Fielding of First Consultant(s):	TA Completion Date Original:	Actual:
8 May 2014	N/A	N/A	31 May 2015	31 May 2015
			Account Closing Date Original:	Actual:
			31 May 2015	31 October 2015
<b>Description</b>				
<p>The regional technical assistance (RETA) supported the second Sustainable Energy Training Program for 2014 following a similarly designed small-scale technical assistance in 2013. The 2014 program ventured into energy efficiency, regional trade and sustained support for solar energy development and funded knowledge activities to this end, partnering with regional departments in terms of content and resources; major institutes and key expert agencies.</p>				
<b>Expected Impact, Outcome and Outputs</b>				
<p>The overall impact of the TA was the greater commitment to clean energy investments in ADB DMC development plans. The expected outcome was the increased capacity to implement clean energy projects. The output was to support DMCs to participate in knowledge events and activities.</p>				
<b>Delivery of Inputs and Conduct of Activities</b>				
<p>The TA<sup>1</sup> supported the conduct of the following knowledge events:</p>				
<p>(i) The <b>Regional Workshop on Energy Efficiency in Asia and the Pacific</b> was held at ADB Headquarters, Manila from 15 to 16 May 2014 with the aim to systematize energy efficiency program support and investment to generate broader and deeper impacts while developing the energy efficiency market further development. About 100 international and local (Philippine) participants attended the event. RETA 8644 supported the participation of 8 representatives from government agencies in charge of energy efficiency project development, energy efficiency practitioners, managers from utilities and finance institutes from Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam, while SARD financed other DMCs from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.<sup>2</sup></p>				
<p>(ii) <b>Energy Efficiency Training Seminar for Central and West Asia Region</b>, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 28–30 May 2014, focused on energy saving technologies, policies, solutions and best practices from around the world to address major challenges and opportunities in energy savings as a source of energy to aid economic growth in Central and West Asia. RETA 8644 financed the participation of four (4) resource persons and three (3) government representatives from Armenia and Georgia, while CWRD financed participants from CAREC countries and other logistical expenses.</p>				
<p>(iii) <b>Regional Energy Trade Workshop</b> was held from 8 to 9 September 2014 at the ADB Headquarters, Manila. The workshop gathered lessons from those who have been successful in putting up the physical infrastructure, establishing the policy and regulatory environment and setting up the market mechanism for regional energy trade. Over 100 international and local participants attended the event. Five (5) resource persons and 8 representatives from the government agencies from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Thailand were supported by RETA 8644. SARD and CWRD financed other resource persons and DMC representatives from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, People's Republic of China (PRC), India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.</p>				
<p>(iv) The <b>Seventh Meeting of the Asia Solar Energy Forum</b> was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 15-17 October 2014, attended by more than 200 participants from over 25 countries who exchanged insights, knowledge and experience on solar energy development ranging from market trend, technology updates, financing approach, policy and regulatory instruments, and business models. The RETA financed the participation of 5 resource persons and 13 government representatives from</p>				

<sup>1</sup> There were no consulting inputs mobilized under the TA.

<sup>2</sup> Asian Development Bank. TA 7491-REG: Support for South Asia Regional Economic Cooperation – Major Change in Technical Assistance. Manila, Philippines, 2013.

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, PRC, Cambodia, India, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tonga and Uzbekistan.

Savings of about 41% of the TA resources was generated on account of supplemental support provided by other departments that collaborated in the implementation of the knowledge events. ADB as the executing agency can be assessed to have performed well in light of how it managed to effectively and efficiently implemented all the events, collaborated both in content and resources internally among different departments, and most importantly, focused in building capacities of DMCs that have the most potential in developing energy efficiency, regional trade and solar energy projects.

#### **Evaluation of Outputs and Achievement of Outcome**

The TA financed the four events and the participation of a total of 32 representatives from DMCs. TA resources were also used to support 14 subject matter experts. From these capacity building and knowledge activities, DMCs were given information on the latest updates and discourse on energy efficiency, solar energy development and regional energy trade; tools to address issues in these areas; and, equip them with the knowledge to plan, design and implement related projects. On the whole, the envisaged output and outcome were more than met in terms of the extent of participation that these events were able to reach and the depth of the content of the subject matters that were taken up.

#### **Overall Assessment and Rating**

The TA is rated successful. It was able to bring in DMC representatives to these knowledge events that raise their awareness and deepen their understanding of the intricacies of developing and implementing clean energy projects.

#### **Major Lessons**

It is important to raise greater awareness of the incentives and benefits of energy efficiency among DMCs whose energy security are mostly and almost always at risk. Energy efficiency interventions are the cheapest way to generate more power without additional cost. Bringing in experts, best practices from developed countries and nuances in approach, technology and financing through knowledge exchange will help sort out the perceived barriers to reap the full potential of energy efficiency. Political economy could impede greater regional cooperation and trade of energy, but the benefits would be far greater than what countries perceive to what they are up against. Sustaining the conversation through regional conferences could help increase understanding between countries, iron out differences, and help chart concrete steps in building greater cooperation. ADB as an honest broker has an important role to play in facilitating and driving the conversation towards laying the appropriate incentive and policy environment for energy trade and regional cooperation in energy. Notwithstanding the decreasing cost of some renewable energy sources, some DMCs still face the high upfront cost in installing renewable energy generation in their respective countries due to differences in economies, markets and available financing. There is much to learn from other countries' experience on how they have been able to transition their power systems to integrate renewable energy sources, how policy and financing were structured and designed accordingly to support such integration. Regional seminars and fora provide that venue to exchange knowledge, experience, and more importantly, build the networks that could become precursors of the much needed market for renewable energy.

#### **Recommendations and Follow-Up Actions**

Knowledge sharing, technological update and continued dialogue across different stakeholders in clean energy is essential to achieve the best outcomes for low carbon growth. It is recommended that ADB continue its support to increasing capacity and skill among its DMCs; designing and programming capacity building activities strategically using new approaches and methodologies, targeted and have clear-cut measurable indicators to assess their impact. Impact of any learning activity may be difficult to assess and is better and effectively measured if there is a systematic mechanism such as a post-activity evaluation/survey tool. Future activities can benefit from this feedback mechanism and help design better and attuned learning programs. In future, part of the planning and design of similar learning activities would also be the formulation and implementation of an evaluation mechanism to gauge the direction of the impact of such events.

Prepared by: Priyantha Wijayatunga

Designation: Principal Energy Specialist